

9 PAGES OF MUSIC IN THE TABLOID

KISS: STILL ALIVE AND LICKING



IN THE TABLOID



COMMENT PAGE 21

The end of a grubby affair

Christian Wolmar Westminster Correspondent

In a report that concludes one of the most shameful and grubby episodes in recent British polities, Sir Gordon Downey, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, found two former Tory ministers guilty of taking envelopes stuffed with cash for asking questions in the

The long-awaited 900-page report by Sir Gordon had been ready for publication before the general election, but was delayed by John Major's decision to prorogue Parliament early. It turns out to be particularly damning about the behaviour of two former ministers, Neil Hamilton and Tim Smith, as well as being highly critical of three other ex-MPs.

1961 and all that

Of Mr Hamilton, the former corporate affairs minister, Sir Gordon says that the evidence that he "received cash payments directly from [Mohamed] at Faved (the owner of Harrods) for lobbying services is com-pelling." Mr Smith, too, accepted cash payments from Mr Fayed of between £18,000 and £25,000. Sir Gordon concludes that Mr Smith's conduct "has to be seen as a disingenuous attempt at concealment".

The two former ministers reacted very differently. Mr Hamilton, unrepentant, said he was "disappointed, devastated, perplexed and amazed" at the report's findings. But Mr. Smith, who resigned just before the election as Tory candidate for Beaconsfield, said: "I am very sorry that my conduct fell well helow the standards expected of MPs. I can only say in my defence that it seemed less obvious at the time than it does with the benefit of hindsight what was the right course of action to take."

Martin Bell, the independent MP who defeated Mr Hamilton in the safe Tory constituency of Tatton, said the report vindicated his decision to stand in the seat. The BBC also confirmed last night that Mr Hamilton was still asking for eash for ouestions by demanding £50 to do interviews.



would go to the courts "if he Gordon Downey's serious findcould find the money" to clear his name. Alan Barnes, the constituency chairman in Tatton last night announced his resignation.

William Hague, the Tory leader, failed to distance himself from those criticised in the report, saying: "The individuals ings. The Conservative Party wishes to see such matters fairly and rigorously dealt with."

Some Tory backbenchers were aghast at the feeble response from Mr Hague. One told The Independent: "William should express strong views

Mr Hamilton vowed to con-tinue fighting and said that he er how they respond to Sir rogues and liars. We lost the election because people didn't believe us, and he has to take a stand, but he is in danger of making the same mistake as Major. This was a significant sample of Tory MPs in the last

Parliament." Labour sources moved quickly to make political capi-

tal out of Mr Hague's stance, contrasting his failure to act with Labour's quick distancing from its two MPs facing disciplinary charges, Mohammed Sarwar and Bob Wareing: "This is a big test for Hague, he should ensure

these people are booted out of the party," one source said. Liberal Democrat Charles

House of Commons Standards and Privileges Committee said: "The sad truth is that on the part of a number of MPs there has been disingenuous and dishonest behaviour."

The strongly-worded nature of the report vindicates the Guardian, which leaked parts of it before the election in clear Kennedy, a member of the contravention of parliamentary

Guardian, Alan Rusbridger said last night that the paper's publication of extracts prevented the election of several of those involved in the affair.

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The report was critical of four other former Tory MPs who faced allegations of misconduct. Sir Michael Grylls, who retired from his Surrey South

Unrepentant: Neil and Christine Hamilton in Westminster yesterday after reading the Downey

Photograph: Brian Harris

West seat, was found by Sir Gordon to have received undisclosed payments of cash from Ian Greer, the lobbyist. He was also found to have "misled a select committee of MPs" and persistently failed to declare his interests in dealings with ministers".

Sir Andrew Bowden, who lost Brighton Kemptown in May, failed to declare interests in dealings with ministers and officials over the House of Fraser", and in one case "gave a mis-leading explanation" for his lobbying. He also failed to register a donation to his election campaign

Michael Brown, who lost Cleethorpes, "persistently and deliberately" failed to declare his lobbying interest for a tobacco firm when dealing with ministers and officials.

Sir Peter Hordern, who stood down at Horsham, was only mildly rebuked for having broken the spirit of the rules but was cleared of accepting cash for questions. Four other ex-MPs who received money from Mr Payed were exonerated: Norman Lamont, Lady Olga Maitland, Gerry Malone, and Nirj Deva. Sir Gordon also said that the rules governing the registration of election donations should be reviewed.

The former MPs have two weeks in which to challenge the it will be up to the 11 members of the Commons Standards and Privileges Committee to decide what action to take. As the men concerned are all now out of Parliament, possible sanctions are limited but the committee could theoretically recommend to Parliament that they send them to prison or ban them from standing for election. However, one source close to the committee said: "They will never get back into public life. That is sufficient punishment."

Below standard, pages 4,5 Leading article, page 19

Clinton begs for Ulster compromise

Chief Political Correspondent

President Clinton last night made an 11th hour appeal to Levalists and Nationalists to avoid a disastrous confrontation in Drumeree at the weekend, as Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, grappled with the agonising decision over whether to let the Orangemen's march go ahead.

With that decision hanging on

a knite edge, the Ulster Secretary last night flew to Belfast for last minute talks with Lt-General Rupert Smith, the General Officer commanding British

troops in the Province, and Ronnie Flanagan, the Chief Constable of the RUC, about the risks of a bloody confrontation on Sunday, if the march is allowed to go ahead.

A decision could be an-

nounced today, but Ms Mowlam is expected to allow the residents of the Garvaghy Road in Portadown and the Orangemen more time to consider the appeal by President Clinton for restraint, and for a compromise to be reached.

There have been very strong rumours that she will force it through, but no decision has been taken either way. She has decides it should be banned, she has the power to do so, but if he decides it should go ahead, she will support him," said one Government source.

Ms Mowlam earlier attended the first talks at Downing Street between Bertie Ahern, the new Irish Taoiseach, and Tony Blair, who also recognised that last hopes of securing a ceasefire from the IRA could rest on the outcome of the Drumcree impasse. Mr Ahern and the Irish Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ray Burke, upset Unionists in Belfast earlier this

made it clear it is for the RUC week when they called for the chief constable to advise. If he march to be banned. "They are worried about the security breaking down, and civil war breaking out, but we have had civil war for a generation," said

one Ulster Unionist MP. Downing Street sources said the meeting was positive, and Mr Ahern praised the "tireless" efforts of Ms Mowlam to reach a compromise in Drumcree, but there were clear signs of tensions between Dublin and London over the decision. "They stated their position and we wanted them to understand the difficulty we have," said a Whitehall source.

Mr Ahern said it would be a "retrograde step" to use troops to force the march along Garvaghy Road past Drumcree Church through the predomi-nantly Catholic area of Portadown, where tensions were rising on the front line. "We have to try to de-escalate the tension, understanding the protests of one side and the traditions of another," said Mr Ah-

ern. "If it goes wrong, nerves will be tested, including my own." Calling for "generosity" to be shown on both sides, the Irish Prime Minister cautioned against allowing the Drumcree confrontation to destroy the

peace process, in which he is supporting Mr Blair in insisting that the IRA must declare a ceasefire before they can join the talks, which are due to resume in September.

The Government broke off contacts with Sinn Fein after the killing of two policemen by the IRA, but officials have confirmed that Sinn Fein has sent the Government a note asking for clarification of the joint Anglo-Irish statement, and the Government is in touch with Sinn Fein through some form of contacts with officials, "We are aware of their general attitude," said the source.

British tennis falls back to earth out of fans for his match, Hen-Rather, it seemed that Stich had Clare Garner man could have no such grieva clear passage. He greeted the final score 6-The sun set on Britain's hopes ance. For everyone was well 3, 6-3, 6-4 by chucking his towaware that Michael Stich, the of a home grown finalist at els to the crowd. The Union Wimbledon this year at 5.44pm German former champion who Jack wavers were the first to has announced his retirement. The fact that the "Greg v had nothing to lose and Hen-Tim" T-shirts had sold out to man, who would have become reach out and grab them. The British were indeed a fickle bunch yesterday. In the expectant spectators that mornthe first Briton to make the

ing said it all. The fans had been counting their Brits before they were hatched. Henmania was history - and as the crestfallen crowd filed out of the stadium they took refuge

in another national obsession -

the weather. While Greg Rusedski, who lost 4-6; 6-4, 4-6, 3-6 to the unseeded Frenchman Cedric Pioline, could have been demoralised by the poor turn

morning Rusedski was chamsemis since 1973 - four years bepioned as their own but once he fore he was born - had everylost the fans were quick to disthing to play for. own him. As one stoward re-Before the match Stich had

marked "If he had won he'd have been British, now that he's said that, while one could always be certain that in football the been knocked out he isn't German would pull through when it came to the crunch, the British any more." When Rusedski walked on to the court at 11.03am only one same could not be said of tennis. But yesterday it never came to the crunch. Any parallel with third of the 11,500 seats were octhe highly charged Euro 96 cupied. An hour later the court shoot out was redundant. was only half full. The reasons

given were various. A spokesman for the All England Tennis Club said "We like the place to be humming but people have to make their own arrangements and we can't in-

fluence people to get here." Boris Becker, three times the Wimbledon champion, will not be returning to the Championships. The German was beaten 6-1, 6-7, 6-1 6-4 by Pete Sampras in the quarter-finals vesterday and announced it was his last match at the All England Club.

"That's it for me," he said. "My last time at Wimbledon. I think it's a good moment for me to go. I just don't feel I have what it takes to win a Grand Slam any more."



Canon



final at Wimbledon yesterday Photograph: David Ashdown Burton quits Burma The Burton Group said it was severing its links with Burma yesterday, just before a Newsnight documentary was due to document its ties to the country. Page 14

Tim Henman after losing to Michael Stich in the quarter-

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significant shorts

Government in Lords defeat over Referendums Bill

The Government last night suffered its first defeat in the Lords, when Tory peers forced a change in the Referendums Bill to require the referendums in Scotland and Wales to be held on the

The defeat, by 101 to 94, a majority of seven, during the committee stage of the Bill could be overturned when it returns to the Commons but that would risk delay, which the Government can ill afford. The referendums are due to be held in light up. It put a hole in the Government's strategy for building up momentum to encourage a "yes" vote in Wales. The Government wanted to hold the Welsh referendum after the Soots had voted on Scotisch Portionnent and it many decided to encourage the Lords'

a Scottish Parliament, and it may decide to overturn the Lords' decision, when the Bill returns to the Commons.

The defeat will also fuel demands for an early move by the Government to end the rights of hereditary peers to vote in the Lords. Tories had so far been restrained in using their dominance of the House in the face of Labour's pledge to abolish hereditary

Cleared prison chief resigns

peers' voting rights.

The chief executive of Ashworth top security hospital has quit her job even though an independent inquiry gave her the all-clear, it

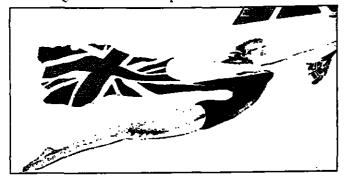
Janice Miles, 48, was suspended from her post on 7 February after the then Health Secretary Stephen Dorrell announced the investigation into alleged paedophile activities and drug abuse at the complex in Maghull on Merseyside.

The hospital authority had ordered its own inquiry into the allegations and it put Mrs Miles, who joined the hospital as general manager in 1993, in the clear. Mrs Miles still intends to give evidence to the judicial inquiry, which begins in November after preliminary hearings in August and October.

BA cabin crew consider strike offer

Leaders of 9,000 British Airways cabin crew were last night considering proposals from the airline aimed at averting a three-day strike beginning next Wednesday. While stewards and stewardesses were protesting over the imposition of a new pay structure, talks continued between the airline and representatives of 9,000 ground staff who are threatening industrial action in a separate dispute over the sell-off of the catering division.

Meanwhile, Richard Branson's Virgin Atlantic yesterday unveiled the airline's new logo (pictured) – the Union Flag which BA dropped from the tailplanes of its aircraft last month. The new logo, which will appear at the front of Virgin aircraft, was unveiled **Barrie Clement** on a Boeing 747 at Heathrow airport.



Lord Irvine helps blind magistrates

A long-standing campaign for blind people to be allowed to serve as magistrates paid off yesterday as Lord Irvine, the Lord Chancellor, announced he was seeking to appoint a pilot complement of six over the next 12 months.

The move was welcomed by the Royal National Institute for the Blind. Chairman John Wall, the only blind person in Britain to hold part-time judicial office in pre-trial High Court hearings, said: "Blind people can judge as well as their sighted peers, especially as they will not be distracted by irrelevant considerations such as a

Channel 5 plans major relaunch

Channel 5 is preparing for a major programming and advertising relaunch in September. Dawn Airey, the channel's programming director, has confirmed that the "stripped and stranded" format of her shows will be watered down and a number will be scrapped or

radically rejigged in the autumn.

There will also be a fresh marketing campaign to encourage people to tune in to the channel because another swathe of transmitters will be turned on in September. Both the programme relaunch and marketing push are timed to coincide with the increased viewing all television gets in the autumn.

Paul McCann

Builders' threat to Opera House

Leaders of 40,000 construction workers yesterday threatened indefinite strikes at prestige projects including the Tate Gallery, Royal Opera House and the Millennium Dome in a dispute over

pay.

The target sites, which also include the Newbury Bypass and the Channel Tunnel Rail-Link, could be hit by stoppages from 5 August, and plans drawn up by the Transport and General Workers Union and the GMB general union.

The Construction Confederation, the employers' group, is secking a long term agreement on pay of up to four years, although unions are now attempting to thrash out a deal for this year.

End of the road for Ladas

Russian-built Lada cars have finally reached the end of the road in Britain, it was confirmed yesterday. Seventy jobs will be lost at the company's Humberside import centre after a rescue attempt failed.

No more new cars will be imported, but Lada owners, thought to number about 100,000, will still get parts and servicing through UK dealers. Often the butt of jokes, the Lada has actually proved quite popular in Britain since it went on sale in 1973.

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people



Mrs Parker Bowles: PR professionals are said to be advising her and the Prince of Wales

TV plays role in campaign to rehabilitate Camilla

Camilla Parker Bowles propaganda campaign will hit something of a peak this weekend, with The broadcast of a sympathetic documentary about the Prince of Wales's "special friend" on Channel 5, and an episode of BBC1's Heart of The Matter exploring the implications for the Church of England of a marriage between the two.

According to the maker of the Channel 5 docu-mentary, Mrs Parker Bowles's biographer, Christopher Wilson, the film was made against the wishes of the Prince's office at St James's Palace, although it has not denied that a "Camilla campaign" is in full swing.

The two programmes come just two weeks after the Daily Mail splashed with the headline "Charles and Camilla: could they marry?", which quoted "friends" of the couple speculating that public opinion had softened in favour of a marriage that would avoid Camilla being called Queen.

Royal correspondents for the tabloid press admit that the sources for a number of pro-Camilla stories are professional public relations experts who are ad-Palace, These include one unpaid advisor from Sir Tim Bell's PR agency, Lowe Bell Communications.

The re-making of Mrs Parker Bowles began in April, when she posed for her first official photograph, as a the villains of the piece. patron of the National Osteoporosis Society.

The society was chosen because Mrs Parker Bowles's family has suffered from the disease, and it would therefore look less like a PR exercise.

Royal watchers have been briefed to expect a 50th birthday party for Mrs Parker Bowles at Prince Charles's home, Highgrove House, in Gloucesterable, later this month. It has also been well leaked that the couple will take their first semi-public holiday togeth-

"The quality of their PR advice has improved no end-this year," said one of the royal pack yeaterday. "Al-though it would have been hard for it to get any worse - she was the most reviled woman in the UK."

- sne was the most revised woman in the UK."
"It's fairly subtle stuff, moving slowly to make sure they don't upset the public." he added.
The Channel 5 documentary will broadcast Mrs Parker Bowles' first public speaking engagement, captured on grainly home video at a National Osteoporosis Society event. Her voice, heard for the first time in public, sounds exactly as you would imagine the voice of The Prince of Wales's mistress and the ex-wife of a Cavairy officer to sound.

it is possible to believe that St James's Palace had no influence on the documentary because, as usual, the members of the Royal Family emerge looking like

Tracie Andrews trial told of row before murder

The jury in the trial of Tracie Andrews, accused of the murder of her boyfriend, Lee Harvey, yesterday heard a nine-year-old girl tell police that she had heard two people arguing outside a house beside the murder scene.

The child, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, said in a videotaped interview that she believed the two voices belonged to a man and a woman. Andrews' version of events is

that her boyfriend was murdered by another man in a road-rage

The little girl was staying in Coopers Hill in Worcestershire, on 1 December last year, the night Mr Harvey died from more than 30 stab wounds.

"I woke up. I heard some people talking outside. It sounded like two people and there was definitely a man. He was shouting and it sounded as if they were arguing,"

She added: "I didn't hear what they said but they were definitely having an argument. I didn't hear the other voice because it was softer than the man's voice."

Earlier, the court heard Susan Duncan, a local resident (above), tell how Andrews had been unable to describe the alleged assailant's car. "She was covered in blood, it was all over her face, all over her hair, and all down her top ... What she was saying to me sounded



very just disjointed at that time. I asked more questions. I asked her about the other vehicle, I asked her if she had seen the colour of the vehicle. She said 'no'," Mrs Duncan said.

"I asked her if she has seen the make of the car and she said 'no'. "I asked her if she had seen any part of the registration number - a letter or a number - and she said

Andrews, 28, of The Becks, Alvechurch, Worcestershire, de-nies murdering Mr Harvey. The prosecution claims that she launched a vicious attack on him as they drove home from a pub.

But Andrews told police that they had been chased along coun try lanes by another vehicle and that Mr Harvey was murdered by a man who was passenger of the mystery vehicle. Jojo Moyes

Minolta (UK) Ltd. Rooksley Park, Precedent Drive, Rooksley, Milton Reynes, MK13 8HF.

Woman's bone marrow may not help dying sister

A woman who overcame her fear of hospitals to help save her dying sister has been told their bone marrow does not match.

Susan Squires and her sister, Angela Latham, both from Blackpool, did not speak for three years after Ms Squires refused to consider a transplant to help her sister fight leukaemia. Doctors treating 34-year-old Mrs

Latham had scoured a worldwide register of 4 million bone marrow donors before concluding that only Ms Squires, 39, could help. Ms Squires finally agreed in

April, after she was told she need not go to hospital. She gave blood samples at her home and "had come to terms" with the operation. But tests showed the sisters' marrow was a "partial mismatch" and Ms Squires was only as suitable as an unrelated donor.

"She was as disappointed as I was with the results of the tests. After everything we'd gone through it was not what I was expecting," Mrs Latham said.

The mother-of-two has vowed to go ahead with the operation if possible, despite warnings of complications. She is now waiting on advice from specialists at Manchester Royal Infirmary as to whether the transplant should go

"It's a case of weighing every-thing up. All we can do is wait."

briefing

EDUCATION

Universities should scrap degree classifications

Universities should move towards replacing the traditional honours degree classifications with a pass/fail system to iron out variations in degree standards, according to an influential report.

The study, published yesterday by the Higher Education Quality Council, concludes that a minimum "threshold standard" for degrees would help ensure consistency, reassuring students and

Though universities, like cars, varied widely in type and purpose, they could all be obliged to pass common quality standards, the

The Graduate Standards Programme, launched three years ago amid mounting concern that rapid expansion in higher education bad led to an overall decline in standards, confirmed that degrees in different universities and subjects were not comparable. There were now very few people who believed that "a degree is a degree

were now very tew people who believed that "a degree is a degree is a degree", said Peter Wright, project director.

The idea of threshold standards for degrees was popular both in higher education and outside, the report found. Academics saw the system as a way of guaranteeing accountability in the eyes of the public, while students wanted to be sure of quality, particularly if they had to contribute financially towards their courses.

However, the HEQC study concluded a threshold system could not be introduced until moves had been made to ensure more comparability between degrees, including stronger external examining. Common terminology was also needed to ensure diploma or a degree at various levels had the same meaning at all higher education institutions.

DRUGS

Ecstasy users suffer depression

Nearly three quarters of ecstasy users feel they are suffering long-term negative consequences of their behaviour, with the most frequent complaints being depression and loss of concentration. According to a survey of nearly 500 long-term regular users – defined as those who have used the drug at least once every two months for two years or more – found that people over 30 are more likely to get feelings of depression, and a third link this to their

In a separate survey, doctors in accident and emergency departments said that ecstasy has now become the second most common drug in terms of patients presenting adverse reactions to

illegal substance Practically all of the users interviewed for BBC Radio 5 Live's Yonng Britain season said

that they had at some point taken ecstasy with another drag. Six out of 10 said they always mixed ecstasy with another drug, the most common being amphetamines, cannabis. alcohol and LSD. And despite the fact that three-quarters of all ecstasy users owned up to concerns about ecstasy's long-

term effects, only one in 20 said they would not take the drug again. Glenda Cooper



HOSPITALS

Denial of care costs 2,500 lives

More than 2,500 people may die every year - a similar number to those killed in road traffic accidents - because they are being wrongly turned away from intensive care units, according to a new

Patients who were turned away from hospital intensive care units because of bed shortages were 60 per cent more likely to die than those who were admitted, said researchers from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine writing in the Lancet.

The study, the first of its kind in Britain, examined six intensive care units over a three-month period and compared the death rates of patients who were refused admission because of lack of facilities. with those who were treated.

Researcher Alison Metcalfe and her team found that 165 of the 650 adult patients who were cligible for admission were turned

When they followed the cases up, three months later, they found that 37 per cent of those who were admitted to intensive care, and 46 per cent of those who were denied admission had died. They concluded that the potential excess risk for those who were not admitted was 60 per cent. Glenda Cooper

POLICE

Complaints threaten confidence

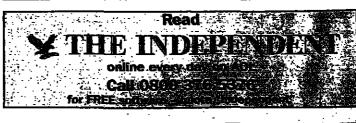
Increasing numbers of complaints of sexual and racial harassment by police officers against their own colleagues is undermining public faith in the ability of the service to handle sensitive investigations, the Police Complaints Authority warned

yesterday.

Launching the authority's 1996/97 annual report, Peter Moorhouse, the chairman, said the fact that three police authorities had voluntarily referred high-profile sex discrimination allegations for investigation suggested "an apparent inability within forces to manage gross disharmony

between officers who should be colleagues."

The authority also highlighted continuing concerns about deaths in custody, calling for force doctors to possess skills in diagnosing psychiatric, drug or alcohol problems and for "urgent consideration" to be given to the introduction of closed-circuit television in at least one cell in police stations, so that high-risk prisoners could be kept under observation. Patricia Wynn Davies





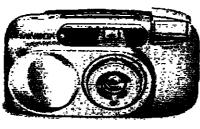
NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING Recycled paper made up 41.2% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1996

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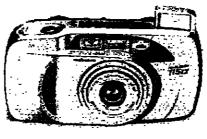
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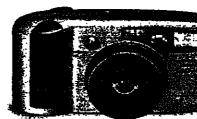


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The fresh intake of Labour MPs have provided a new model army for the glossy pages of Elle magazine

Alexandra Williams and Fran Abrams

THE INDEPEND

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Dressed in a classy range of trouser suits, short skirts and stilettos, the five formidable women are "sexy, stylish and spirited".

They embody the core values of Elle, the upmarket women's style magazine - but they are not the latest breed of professional model but members of Labour's new model army. Sumptuously spread over five pages, five Labour women MPs strut their stuff in the magazine's September issue.

The unprecedented number of Labour women MPs winning seats at the May election prompted the magazine's piece. Of the 101, Diane Abbott, Melanie Johnson, Caroline Flint, Shona McIsaac and Jane Griffiths escaped the Commons for a session as models in a top studio.

Fussed over by the fashion guru Iain R Webb, the women spent a day posing in front of the renowned photographer John Swannell's camera.

But the magazine's photography director, Duane Ashurst, said: "These women are not fashion victims. They were a bit apprehensive at first but we assured them they wouldn't be modelling Versace ball gowns but instead smart day wear.

"In the main we chose the younger and newer MPs to the party and wanted a range of looks. We didn't want them all to have long blonde

Swannell shot the black-and-white pictures two weeks ago in his studio in Camden, north London. But the





Jane Griffiths (above), two of the Labour MPs who have been photographed for the September issue of Elle (left). 'These women are not fashion victims,' the magazine's photography director, Duane Ashurst, said. 'They were a bit apprehensive at first but we assured them they wouldn't be modelling Versace ball gowns but instead smart day wear

Caroline Flint (right) and

Photographs: Nicola Kurtz

cation date of 8 August. Mr Ashurst said: "We can't give too much away too soon - there has to be an element of surprise for our readers.

"The clothing is very smart and the pictures are classic - the women look almost statuesque. They are smiling and up-beat."

The youngest model, the new magazine is keen to keep the pictures Cleethorpes MP Shona McIsaac, 27, under wraps until nearer the publi- sports a pair of high spiked metal

stilettos and an above-the-knee skirt. Caroline Flint, 35-year-old new MP for Don Valley, sees the focus on fashion as a good way to reach the readers of women's magazines.

"If it were an angling magazine or an FA Cup magazine the focus would be different.

"But we are showing that as women politicians we share some of the same interests as other ordinary

women and I think that's good," she

The MP for Welwyn Hatfield, 42-year-old Melanie Johnson, said the five chose their outfits from a rack of clothes provided by Elle. "I think there's quite a lot of in-

terest in us as a group. There is a sense of change and of people finding out what that change means," she said. Jane Griffiths, MP for Reading already an MP before the last elec-

East, was clad in a pin-striped wool suit for the shoot, and enjoyed the

She said: "They definitely haven't made us look like models. It was a way of showing we were human

Diane Abbott, Hackney North and Stoke Newington MP since 1987and the only one in the group who was

tographs of Labour women MPs. I zines before." she said.

ticularly significant.

have had my photograph in maga-Elle is not the only magazine to have taken an interest in the new intake of women MPs.

tion, did not think the exercise par-

turned a total of 120 women to Par-

liament their profile has been con-

Within the first week, Richard and "Elle wanted to take some pho-Judy had three new Labour women on their morning show for a makeover.

The MPs have also featured in She and New Woman. Good Housekeeping ran pictures of 70 of the new Since the general election re- breed with their pledges on what they would like to do for women.

Recording is too much like hard work

Britain's pop stars are rebelling industry.

The arms of the property industry. who they say are working them tuo hard.

Bands are being asked to produce what they claim is an exhausting supply of bonus tracks, remixes and alternative B-sides for different record formats. They say the practice, used by record companies to boost singles sales, leads to substandard material being released and undermines the eredibility of the charts by inducing fans to buy several formats of the same single.

In a statement issued vesterday to The Independent, repre- motional schedule frequently sentatives of some of the biggest

represents British music management, follows a meeting of its council members at the Royal Albert-Hall on Wednesday. Among them were the managers of George Michael, Skunk Anansie, Cast, Mansun, Inspiral Carpets, the Boo Radleys, Bryan Ferry, Paul Young and Robbie Williams.

The IMF said: "The creative strain of having to write and produce dozens of additional tracks time pressures of a hectic proleads to sub-standard material

IMF, the organisation which be calling for major changes in the singles market when it meets shortly with officials from the

British Phonographic Industry. It is likely to call for a reduction to just two record formats for singles - probably CD and seven-inch single - with an A side and one B side. A separate 12-inch vinyl chart for dance music only is also likely

to be proposed. Currently it is not uncommon for the same single to exist on at great cost combined with the a 25-minute CD (four tracks), a second 25-minute CD (with the same A side and three different bonus tracks), and a 40- a B-sides album or a box set."

formats to help maximise sales and achieve a high chart position." The group said it would no cassette single (different single sales have enjoyed a sales h a radical shake-up of the record formats to help maximise sales eral times). The same single bonus tracks), seven-inch vinyl and 12-inch vinyl (up to 40 min-

utes of remixes). Robert Swerdlow, manager of Cast and Mansun, said that with each single bands were giving away almost an album of free material which was not covered by their contract. "When a band gets signed to a recording company it is for albums and singles alone," he said. "Now the record companies are getting free of charge an extra 16 tracks a year in their catalogue

which they could use to put out

names in British music called for being released across several minute CD (A side remixed sev- And he added: "It is material jor labels who can afford to give

huge revival in the last two years (still different bonus tracks). as record companies have increased their efforts to use them as a promotional tool for albums. Britons buy more singles per head than any other country - except Japan - and sales are greater than at any time since 1982. Nearly 50 mil-

lion singles were sold in 1996, a rise of 23 per cent on 1995. Many sales are achieved, however, because shops can cut prices after receiving singles free from record companies. Ian McAndrew, manager of the Brand New Heavies, said: "It gives a great advantage to ma-

their records sold at full price

cannot compete." Record industry sources said bonus tracks often involved little work from the band. "They can be live tracks, interviews or B-sides that have been recorded before," said one. "Bands should realise that no one makes money from singles which are a vehicle to draw attention.

through radio, to the album, David Hughes, of EMI, added: "The view of the public was that the capability of the CD was such that only giving them the old A and B side was not giving them value for money."



Protest song: Managers of artists such as George Michael (above) say they are being pressured to sanction sub-standard releases

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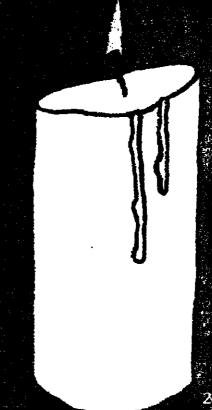
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Five men who fell below the standards

Hamilton: cash and a stay at Ritz

Neil Hamilton:

Former barrister specialising in taxation, aged 48. Became MP for Tatton in 1983 but lost his seat to Martin Bell. Entered Parliament in 1983, became a government

whip in 1990 and was corporate affairs minister from 1992 to 1994. The charges: That he took £10,000 from Ian Greer to lobby ministers and failed to declare it on the Register of Members' Interests or to the Inland Revenue. That he twice failed to declare free hospitality at the Ritz Hotel in Paris from the Harrods owner, Mohamed al-Fayed, and that he stayed at Mr Fayed's estate, Bainagown Castle, without declaring it. That some of the money was disguised as gifts of paintings and oth-

from Mr Payed. That he deliberately misled Michael Heseltine, the deputy prime minister, about his relationship with Mr Greer.

Downey verdict: There was compelling evidence that Mr Hamilton received cash directly from Mr Fayed in return for lobbying services. Although the total amount was unclear it was unlikely to have been less than the £18.000-£25.000 received by Tim Smith. The way the payments were received and concealed fell well below standards expected of MPs.

Mr Hamilton deliberately misled Mr Heseltine, president of the board of trade, in 1994, when he said he had no financial relationship with Mr Greer. In a phone conversation he gave an absolute assurance that there was no such relationship, when er items and that he also took in fact he had received two comthousands of pounds in envelopes mission payments from him in 1988



Neil Hamilton: Downey said there was compelling evidence he had recieved money from Al Fayed for lobbying

from Mr Fayed at the Ritz and else-

have been registered. The Inland

Revenue was not told of the two

commission payments from Mr

where was for lobbying and should

and 1989, totalling £10,000. There Hospitality Mr Hamilton received

was no evidence he received cash in-

directly from Mr Fayed through Mr

Greer, though he admitted taking

payments from Mr Greer for other

Greer, and Mr Hamilton asked for payment in kind so the sums would not be taxable. In 1990 Mr Hamilton deliberate-

ly gave the impression he had severed links with Mr Fayed but three months co and the National Nuclear Cor-

later was still soliciting favours, in the form of a second stay at the Ritz. Mr Hamilton failed to register two introduction payments from Mr Green in relation to United States Tobac-

kind. But there was insufficient evidence to show that the UST payment was a disguised consultancy fee. He also failed to register hospitality from UST

Mr Hamilton persistently and deliberately failed to declare interests in the House of Fraser and Skoal Bandits. His action in accepting a commission payment for introducing a constituent to Mr Greer and a consultancy fee for representing a constituent's interests were unacceptable.

A consultancy fee from Strategy Network International was not registered on the spurious grounds that Mr Hamilton had disposed of his interest within four weeks. An allegation that he accepted a paid consultancy from Mobil Oil in return for asking parliamentary questions was not substantiated.

Sir Gordon's report said Mr Hamilton seemed to harbour the misconception that a small giftrepresented a small obligation. "There is a general obligation on members to the effect: 'If in doubt, register.' Mr Hamilton seems to have adopted the opposite principle and, if in doubt, gave him

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Smith: accepted cash in return for lobbying

Tim Smith:

Conservative MP for Beaconsfield from 1982 until this year. when he was forced to stand down amid allegations of bribetaking. Worked for Leon Brittan at the Home Office from 1983-85 and was a Northern Ireland minister from January to October 1994, but resigned when the cash for questions affair broke. The charges: That as chairman of the Conservative Trade and Industry Committee, he took bribes from Mr Fayed to ask questions about the takeover of the House of Fraser and to lob-

bv ministers. That in 1986 he was paid cash to arrange an adjournment debate in the Commons attacking the Observer and its owner, Tiny Rowland, for running stories against the Harrods owner. He declared the payments to the Inland Revenue but not to the registrar of members' interests. cept cash payments directly from Mr Fayed, of between £18,000 and £25,000, in return for lobbying. There was no evidence that he received cash from Mr Payed via Mr Greer. The way in which these payments were received and con-

standards expected of MPs. The allegation that Mr Smith was paid to initiate an adjournment

debate was not substantiated. Mr Smith's financial interest in House of Fraser was only registered in January 1989, when it had been publicly exposed by Mr Rowland, and then only for a period of two and a half weeks.

"This has to be seen as a disingenuous attempt at concealment. On any view, this was a totally unacceptable form of registration by Mr Smith," Sir Gordon wrote. He also criticised Mr Smith for continuing to deny receiving cash payments.
This lack of candour by Mr Smith and the uncertainty over the total sums he received from Mr Al Fayed are matters of great concern. Mr Smith is a chartered accountant and I should have expected him to have more accurate records," he wrote.

The MP persistently and deliberately failed to declare his isters and officials over House of Fraser issues.

However, to his credit, he did eventually admit receiving payments, although not until he was asked in 1994. He also expressed his regrets for the non-registration and noncealed fell well below the declaration of his interests.

Grylls: Misled committee over dealings

Sir Michael Grylls:

A former Royal Marine and son of a brigadier, he served as a Conservative MP for 27 years until he stood down in May, aged 63. Most recently was member for Surrey North West. The charges: That he was reg-ularly paid by Ian Greer, and he abused his position on the parliamentary trade and industry committee to make profits. He failed to note his relationship with Mr Greer on the Register of Members' Interests and lied to the select committee on members' interests in 1990. Downey verdict: Sir Michael took non-cash payments from Mr Green, though it was not possible to conclude that they originated from Mr Fayed. However, he did actively par-

ticipate in lobbying campaigns organised by Mr Greer. The MP deliberately misled the select committee on members' interests in 1990 when he seriously understated the number of commission payments he had received. He also omitted to inform them of other fees he

received from Mr Greer. Sir Gordon was particularly critical of Sir Michael's failure

to tell the committee about his full dealings with Mr Greer.

The committee's report, which concluded that there had been "no clear infringement of the rules," would have been quite different if it had known all the facts, he said.

"In his evidence Sir Michael had omitted altogether to refer to the direct, regular payments received from Mr Greer or Ian Greer Associates which had the effect of putting Sir Michael on an annual, but undisclosed retainer with the lobbying organisation. I believe the concealment was deliberate."

Sir Gordon also concluded that when meeting ministers and officials to talk about the affairs of the House of Fraser, Sir Michael persistently failed to declare his interest in Mr Payed's affairs.

Sir Michael also accepted a commission payment from Mr Greer for introducing him to Charles Church, whose property company had its headquarters in his constituency. This was unacceptable, though there was insufficient evidence to show that Sir Michael solicited business for Mr Greer in expectation of commission payments.



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Scandal that changed the face of politics

Christian Wolmar

Westminster Correspondent

The cash for questions affair permanently changed the face of British politics. It led to the demise of three ministers, and it resulted in the setting up of the Nolan Committee on Stan-dards in Public Life, and the creation of a Parliamentary Commissioner. Sir Gordon Downey, whose report was published yesterday. The hero/villain of the affair

is Mohamed al Fayed, the own-er of Harrods. The villain, because it was largely his patronage that led many MPs to err by accepting money to ask questions in Parhament. The hero, because it was his information that led to the first publication of the details of the affair.

Certainly, without Mr Fayed's information, Mr Hamilton, Mr Smith and the rest would probably still be re-spectable MPs: Jonathan Aitken, who was also downed by Mr Fayed's information, might be the Tory leader, and Ian Greer Associates would

on the back of Vacher's Parliamentary Companion.

The story starts with the battle between Tiny Rowland, who then owned the Observer, and the Fayed brothers, for control of Harrods, which culminated in their successful bid in 1984.

Mr Rowland retaliated, using the Observer to publish attacks on Mr Fayed who, in turn, responded by employing the po-litical lobbyist, Ian Greer, to counter the criticisms. Mr Greer enlisted the help of numerous Tory MPs, including Neil Hamilton Other MPs who helped included Tim Smith, Sir Michael Grylls and Andrew Bowden. Mr Fayed poured cash into

Ian Greer Associates, which was disbursed to 40 mainly Tory MPs for election expenses - not. in itself, against the rules. He was also generous in his hospitality, particularly to Mr Hamilton, who ran up a bill of £4,221 at the Paris Ritz in September 1987. Mr Fayed wanted to be a

British citizen, but his application Tim Smith. was being blocked. He couldn't Mr Hitchen alerted John understand why all the money he still be advertising its wares had paid out had not reaped any



Rogues gallery: (From left) Tim Smith, Michael Brown (top), Andrew Burden and Sir Michael Grylls, who were condemned in the Downey report

benefits. Eventually he began to tell his tales to journalists.

In September 1994, he summoned Brian Hitchen, then editor of the Sunday Express, to his office and told him the tales of cash for questions. He specifically named Neil Hamilton and

Major to the allegations, and the

headed by Sir Robin Butler. Five ber 1996, first Mr Greer then Mr al after the committee found be days before Sir Robin's inquiry was published, towards the end of October, the Guardian, which had been alerted by Mr Fayed, ran a story about cash for questions involving Mr Smith and Mr Hamilton.

Mr Hamilton and Mr Greer launched a libel action against the Guardian, but days before it

Hamilton pulled out. It gave the media the opportunity to run the stories over and over again. The matter was referred to election, but John Major's de-

the Commons Standards and Privileges Committee, along with the behaviour of two Tory ministers, David Willetts and Andrew Mitchell, Mr Mitchell was cleared, but Mr Willetts had to resign as Paymaster Gener- Mr Hamilton wobbled but

by Martin Bell. had "dissembled". Sir Gordon was expecting to present his main findings just before the

cision to prorogue Parliament prevented publication. The Guardian responded by publishing documents resulting in the resignation of Mr Smith as a parliamentary candidate. stayed on, only to be defeated

It looked, to the electorate, that Mr Major had avoided publishing the report before the election, and certainly its damning contents would not have helped the Tories' cause. But neither did withholding it, and all the MPs investigated who were standing lost their seats.

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ly proper.
The others who had no case to answer were: Robert Atkins.

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20 are

cleared

by the

findings

Twenty present and former

MPs were wholly or partially ex-onerated, including Sir Peter

Hordern, a consultant to the

House of Fraser who also stayed

at the Ritz and Balmagown Cas-

tle. He registered his consul-

tancy but not Mr. Faved's

hospitality but Sir Gordon "would not see this as grounds

for censure. Lady Olga Maitland worked

tor Mr Greer before becoming

an MP and although she in-

voiced for the work after her

election there was no need to

list it on the register of members' interests. Gerald Malone.

former health minister, received an election donation of £1,000

from Mr Fayed 18 months af-

ter meeting him to talk about

his affairs but this was perfect-

Bowden: Did not declare

Sir Andrew Bowden:

Former businessman and MP for Brighton Kemptown since 1970, now aged 67. Lost his seat to Labour on May 1 this year. Knighted in 1994, but was never promoted to ministerial rank.

The charge: That he took more than £5,000 from Mr al Fayed, through Ian Greer, towards his election funds in 1987, and that he did not declare all of it,

The verdict: The election donation of £5,319 from Mr Greer was intended as a reward for lobbying and Sir Andrew probably knew it came originally from Mr Payed. He had maintained that he did not know the money came from Mr Fayed.

However, there was insufficient evidence to substantiate the allegation that Sir Andrew received, or demanded, cash payments from Mr Fayed in return for lobbying services.

The MP failed to register this donation. He also failed to declare his interests in dealings with ministers and officials over House of Fraser, and in one case gave a positively misleading explanation for his representations.

Mr Bowden also received lecture fees from Mr Greer which were entered in the Register of Members' Interests, and although the source was not identified this was probably ad-

Brown: Failed to register

The verdict: Mr Brown failed to

register an introduction pay-ment from Mr Greet on behalf

of US Tobacco. He also persis-

tently and deliberately failed to

declare an interest in Skoal

Bandits in his dealings with

ministers over the issue. He did

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Michael Brown:

MP since 1979, first for Brigg and Scunthorpe and since 1983 for Brigg and Cleethorpes. Lost his seat to Labour on 1 May. The only openly gay Conservative MP, he was a minister for trade and industry. Northern Ireland and foreign affairs between 1989 and 1993. The charges:

That he took £6,000 from Jan Greer Associates for work on be-

half of US Tobacco, and that he did not declare it in the Register of Members' Interests or to He accepted that they should ministers, and that he did not pay have been declared and apolotax on the money until the payments became publicly known.

gised for not doing so.

Mr Brown had lobbied, along with Mr Hamilton, against the banning of Skoal Bandits, which were believed to cause mouth cancer. Mr Brown also received a free flight to Connecticut to be briefed by the company. However, he did list this in the Register of Members' Interests

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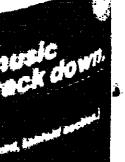
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Flak for Sainsbury's in battle of the breast

Louise Jury

Around 40 breast-feeding counsellors resigned in tears from the National Childbirth Trust yesterday after the charity voted to accept sponsorship from Sainsbury's, which sells its own baby milk substitute.

Many more are expected to follow in protest at the deal with the supermarket chain which they claim contravenes World Health Authority guidelines on the independence of health workers and the charity's own principles.

An extraordinary general meeting of the trust, which promotes breast-feeding and natural childbirth, was called by rebel members unhappy that trustees had taken the supermarket's money without con-sulting the 55,000 members.

The decision followed a move to raise subscription levels which had also upset supporters who feared the higher rate would confirm the charity's image as a white middle-class

At an emotional meeting in Acton town hall, west London,

dozens of counsellors and ordinary members accused trustees of a lack of democracy and of abandoning what the

trust had always stood for. Sainsbury's is the only leading supermarket chain to produce an own-brand formula, and the rebels claims that accepting sponsorship could be viewed as endorsing that brand. But despite significant support in the hall, the rebels failed to win over more than 3,000 members who had already voted by

Lean Granat, a counsellor from Glasgow who also tutors other counsellors, said she had been offering independent information to mothers for 10 years. "Accepting money from a formula milk manufacturer totally compromises that position.

It's very sad," she said. Sheila Perkins, who resigned as chair of the trust's breastfeeding promotion group when the sponsorship was first revealed last November, announced she was resigning as a member, counsellor and tutor altogether. "Information has been suppressed," she said.



scription fees to be approved by members, said there were con-

Caroline King, a member had been run. The council of who had called for all sub-trustees had sent four pages optrustees had sent four pages opposing the rebels' resolutions with the voting forms. But the cerns about the way the voting rebels, who paid for their own

campaign, had not even been permitted to have a membership list of people to contact. However, she said the trustees had now heard the strength of

demonstrate by their actions the future of the National Child-

birth Trust." Ruth Stone, the trust's chair,

said she regretted the resignations, but believed the NCT would be stronger as a result of

the debate. "I really feel that the NCT is

Broadfoot led the tearful resignations of more than 40 breast-feeding counsellors from the

moving into a whole new phase of its development. If they don't feel comfortable with that, they have to follow their con-

BMA conference: Doctors' key vote

Euthanasia rejected 'for time being'

Jeremy Laurance Health Editor

Deliberately ending the lives of terminally ill patients who request euthanasia is an admission of defeat and should have no place in medical practise, doctors decided yesterday.

There is no suffering so great that it cannot be eased by modern drugs and medical techniques and there is consequently no justification for doctors to discard their car-ing role and become state li-regained his symptoms, he regained his confidence and he ing role and become state li-

annual conference in Edinburgh agreed by a narrow majority to include the words "for the time being" in a motion op-posing euthanasia, signalling its intention to return to the issue in the future.

We are doctors. Our function is to heal and comfort, not to dispose of people'

In a powerful debate, doctors described how they had been pressed by both patients and relatives to end lives with lethal doses of drugs.
Dr Fay Wilson, a GP in Birm-

ingham, said: "However much I want to help with their suffering I wasn't able to kill them. We are doctors. Our function is to heal and comfort, not to dispose of people."

She said patients who had re-

quested euthanasia had later thanked her for refusing when their condition had improved. Dr Jane Orr. a Surrey GP. said: "Bad deaths do sometimes

occur but that is due to bad medicine. The answer to had medicine. I ne answer to bad medicine is not to kill people but to create good medicine. Some speakers argued that it

was arrogant for doctors to de-cide the issue alone and called for a royal commission on euthanasia. A hallot of 900 doctors in Worcestershire, to which 300 replied, found a third were

in favour of a change in the law to permit the practice and a third said they would assist a sui-

Dr Michael Stuart, a GP in Southend and a founding member of The Association of Palliative Care, described the case of a man with cancer in his spine who was unable to walk and was admitted to a hospice where it was expected he would spend his final days.

"He was terrified but we censed killers, the BMA said. left the hospice walking," he

> The man did not die until several months later - of a heart at-The conference was warned

by BMA chairman Dr Sandy Macara not to jeopardise the doctor patient relationship by voting for euthanasia. "Patients see us as serving life

not embracing death and we should do nothing to betray that trust," he said.

Earlier, an updated version of the 2,500-year-old Hippo-cratic Oath, drafted by the association's ethics committee, was criticised by the conference

for being too long and too dull. The oath, which pledges doc-tors to follow the medical ethical code, is supposedly sworn by students on qualification but fewer than half of medical schools follow the practice. The BMA has for two years been working on a new wording of the oath appropriate for use by doctors around the

Dr Hector Spiteri, a GP from Redbridge, said the new version, which is three times the length of the old, was too long to be sworn orally and included reference to issues such as abor-tion which made it unnecessarily contentious.

All that was needed could be said in two sentences: "The physician shall selflessly practise medicine for the sole benefit of the patient and shall avoid causing him harm. He shall do with respect, integrity and com-passion and without any form

Dr Mark Porter from Coventry said that an oath suitable to be sworn by doctors for the next 1,000 years "sorely needs trans-

Two die from new type of CJD

Charles Arthur Science Editor

Two more people have died of the "new variant" of the fatal Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD), believed to be caused by exposure to "mad cow disease" or BSE. The deaths, in the past month, brings the total number of British victims of "v-CJD" to 19, including one, Vicky Rimmer, who is still alive but in a coma.

The news will be a blow to both McDonald's and Burger King, which recently announced that they were reinstating British beef in their hamburgThey stopped using it in food in March 1996, after the Tory government was forced to admit that the most probable explanation for the new disease was exposure to the disease agent - which has never been isolated - that causes bovine spongiform encepalopathy

The latest announcement, to be made officially by the De-partment of Health on Monday. comes from figures compiled by the CJD Surveillance Unit in

Scientists of the govern-ment's advisory body Seac are increasingly convinced that BSE is the direct cause of the disease



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As another high-profile case is sent back to the Appeal Court, members of the Birmingham Six find their nighmare lives on

Freed from injustice but still imprisoned in their own tragedy





First the state took away their still not free. liberty and now it seems intent on stripping the Birmingham Six failed relationships have lit-

the Birmingham pub bombings, but their nightmares coninue. Psychologically, they are

Depression, anxiety and tered their paths since they

prison. Yesterday, money was added to the list of problems when Paddy Hill appeared be-fore magistrates to explain why he was in arrears with his coun-

It was a bizarre, almost sur-

diminutive, hyperactive 52-year-old, was once more in the dock ey. Since I got out of prison I but this time the court and its officers seemed deeply embarrassed by his very presence. "This isn't a protest," he told

the bench at Haringey Magis-

have received an interim [compensation] payment and I have paid all my bills every year. But now I have run out of money.

because no contributions were paid during the 16 years I was in prison. I am still being treated as though I am guilty even though I have been exonerated. I have since found out that I am

but I was told I wasn't eligible ter missing just two payments of £80 towards his council tax. Robert Allan, the clerk to the court, explained that the mag-istrates had no choice but to issue a liability order against Mr Hill, but he hoped the council would be sympathetic towards

his case before enforcing it. -Dorothy Wilkinson, chair of the bench, appeared concerned at Mr Hill's plight. "Keep in touch with the local authority and let them know how your compensation case is coming,"

Paul Rudd, representing the local authority, seemed slightly uncomfortable. "We will do him." he said. "Bloody hell," said Mr Hill

afterwards. "I wish it had been like that in 1974."

His problems, and those of the other five - Gerry Hunter, Hugh Callaghan, Richard McIlkenny, Billy Power and Johnny Walker - stem largely from an apparent reluctance on. the part of the Home Office to for the years they wasted in prison. They have had two interim payments totalling £200,000 but they believe they increasingly desperate circum-

couldn't go back and live in Birmingham so we had to re-set-tle," said Mr Hill. "I had to buy a place to live in London, so that was more than £100,000 gone

"I squandered much of the rest on my children and grandchildren. I had terrible feelings of guilt for not being there for them and, I suppose, I tried to buy their love. What else do you do when your own grandchildren run away because they don't recognise you?"

After their release, none o selling or help of any other kind. All six suffer anxiety attacks and depression to various degrees. All have had relationship problems, some of which have resulted in splits or divorce, although one, happily, has been reconciled with his wife.

The men hope that their compensation log-jam might be freed by the new Government. Saily Mulready, the secretary of the campaign to free them, said they had asked Jack Straw, the Home Secretary.

"What has happe men is a national disgrace," she said. "It's now time to compensate them for losing so much of their lives. But it isn't just the money. They want the apology they never had from the last government. All it would take for them all to feel much

are entitled to much more - and to an apology. In spite of their stances, wrangling over the compensation drags on. "The interim payments better is for someone to simply sound like a lot of money but stand up and say: 'Sorry'." Hyde Park IRA 12m cable. bomber wins fresh appeal WAS Wilkinson Sword Long Handled Patricia Wynn Davies Legal Affairs Editor Mounting doubts over forensic innocence. evidence in the case of Danny McNamee, jailed for the 1982 IRA Hyde Park bombing, finally led yesterday to his case being sent back to the Court of Appeal. The decision by the Criminal Cases Review Commission - the first by the independent miscarriage of justice watchdog Char-Broil CB 50 Gas Barbecue Steel body and legs, single stainless steel burner, Heavy duty plastic base. since it began work in April this year - comes a week ahead of a televised admission, on Channel 4's Trial and Error programme, by self-confessed IRA bomb-maker Dessie Ellis that electronic circuit boards linked WAS £59 to McNamee bore a close resemblance to those Ellis had been convicted of constructing. McNamee, sentenced to 25 years for conspiracy to cause the 1982 explosion, was described by the prosecution at his 1987

trial as the IRA's "master bomb

But the commission said yesterday that the conviction should be reconsidered following inquiries into scientific and fingerprint evidence and nondisclosure of evidence at the time of McNamee's first appeal in 1991.

McNamee, 37, a former electronics engineer from Cross-

magien, Co Armagh, has persistently denied membership of the IRA and protested his

His conviction turned on the discovery of his fingerprints on tape found in two IRA arms dumps, and on a battery which survived the explosion.

McNamee said in his defence that rolls of that kind of tape could have been handled by numbers of people in the electronics factory where he worked, while he had repaired thousands of CB radios which contained similar batteries.

The trial heard that there were more than 100 prints on the contents of the arms caches, which the prosecution accepted were from innocent

PHERMONES

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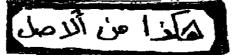
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An Authorised Officer





Ulster nerves taut as Orange parades near

Portadown

IE INDOPPENIEW

re lives on

The tension was almost tangible in Portadown yesterday as both Protestant and Catholic communities look forward ner-

vously to Sunday's planned Orange parade.
The more visible signs at Drumcree and its effect on the psyche of the town were also there. In the largely Catholic Garvaghy Road area, through which the march is scheduled to pass, youths were busily erecting bunting in the colours of the Irish Tricolour and repainting anti-Orange slogans on walls. Elsewhere in the mainly Protestant town, Union flags fluttered from scores of windows and the bonfires that traditionally mark the Orange Order's July celebrations were piling high.

Such tension is familiar for the 103 Protestants families still living at the bottom of the Garvaghy Road, an area once known as The Walk because of its associations with parades but now mostly Catholic. One woman sitting in her living room with a photograph of the Queen, talks of the intimidation she and neighbours suffer from nationalists all year round but especially in July. "Windows are smashed, doors are kicked and our children can't play safely in the park." She recalls a recent incident in which a six-year-old Protestant boy



he listened to bands with his mother he said

Independent asked not to be named, is fu-

was surrounded by Catholic teenagers who asked him what his religion was. "He didn't understand, but when they asked if who like most people approached by The most going to be driven out."

Inaepenaeu asked not to be named, is in the portadious at speculative talk that the Portadious a we will bear the brunt here, the march must

Protestants Committee in the town, said many had been driven out by what he called And he claimed that the outside world has The Garvaghy Road Justice Camp' which police will have to remove if the march goes ahead Photograph: Pacemaker

chosen to ignore the plight of such Protestants for too long. Sunday's parade is makeor-break for the Unionists, he believes, and if the Lodge does not march down the road he says he will urge "ordinary men, women and children" to do just that. "We are getting walked upon, but I think we are beginning to wake up to what's happening. We're not daft."

In the town centre there is deeply felt support for the parade, "We don't want any trouble but I think our community has given enough away," says one woman. Another adds: "I think that people would be devastated if it didn't go ahead."

On the Garvaghy Road itself, where Catholic women have set up a self-styled "Justice Camp" in an attempt to prevent the march going through, a woman said: "Why can't they march in their own part of town? I just want my children to be able to go out and be safe." She denied that Protestants had been driven out, "Its just that when they leave they tend to be replaced by Catholics."

Few Protestants believe her. They talk of a Sinn Fein orchestrated compaign to bring in outsiders for the weekend's protests, and of claims that petrol bombs have been prepared. One said: "They won't be happy un-til the area is 100 per cent Catholic."

Plans to put 3-year-olds in nursery

Judith Judd **Education Editor**

Legislation to compel local authorities to ensure that education is provided for three and four-year-olds would be introduced under government pro-posals expected to be published

Draft guidelines on the Government's pledge to provide free nursery education for all fouryear-olds aim to end the lottery of schooling for under-fives: in some authorities nearly all four-



David Blunkett: Wants nursery places for all

rk IRA

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ppeal

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year-olds receive nursery education while, in others, hardly any do. The proposal would overturn legislation introduced by the Conservatives 16 years ago which made it clear that councils had no statutory duty to provide nursery education.

Guidelines to be sent out for consultation say that the school starting age would remain the same so parents would still choose whether they wanted education for younger children.

However, they say that to guarantee the achievement of the targets for four-year-olds and three-year-olds it would be necessary to place a statutory duty on local authorities to secure the provision of nursery education for a specific age range

The consultation document asks whether such a duty would be desirable and when it should come into force. David Blunkett, the Secretary of State for Education, has said that he wants all four-year-olds to have a free nursery place by next Sep-tember and that, eventually there should be places for all three-year-olds.

Local authorities are being asked to draw up plans to show how they would achieve the targets. Part of the funding for nursery education, the guidelines propose, would be an earmarked grant to be released only if Mr Blunkett approves an authority's plan.

Authorities will have to set up new bodies to draw up plans by include parents as well as representatives from the private and voluntary sector, the guidelines suggest.

Ministers' ultimate aim is for the bodies to plan childcare and education for all children aged one to eight. The Government will invite bids for the establishment of 25 pilot centres of excellence which will be expected to show how early education and childcare can be combined with other family services such as adult literacy programmes and parenting courses. Sue Owen of the National Children's Bureau early childhood unit said yesterday that she welcomed the proposal for a new duty on local authorities but legislation alone would not achieve the Govern-ment's aims. "You have to make things mandatory to make serious change but you also have to do something to ensure quality and to provide funding."

Graham Lane, chair of the Local Government Association's education committee, said that local authorities would welcome a change in the law. "It will help to ensure that authorities prepare proper plans for nursery provision." A mortgage rate like this appears about as often as an English Wimbledon Champion.

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> hen Owen's Anthology of Chinese features the writer often regardinese classical poets. Du Fu's imides a series of poems, such as this,

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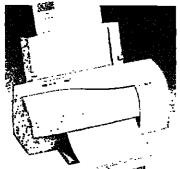
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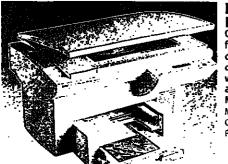
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The Conran superwomen turn Sir Terence into a marital loser

Kim Sengupta

He is a man of immense wealth who has shaped the way we live now. The British Prime Minister and the American President chose his restaurant to eat during a state visit. But when it comes to his personal life, Sir Terence Conran appears to have an expensive habit of losing wives.

Yesterday at the High Court he was ordered to pay a £10.5m settlement to his latest ex-wife. Writer and journalist Caroline was the third woman to have married and then left Sir Terence.

However, like a previous incum-bent of the role, Shirley Conran, the renowned author of "Superwoman", she has emerged from the partnership a successful figure in her own

Lady Caroline, 58, had asked for a cash pay-out of £8.7m. Sir Terence, 68, had offered £2.5m, claiming most of his £80m fortune had been created after the marriage ended.



But Mr Justice Wilson decreed Lady Caroline should receive £6.2m Lady Caroline should receive £6.2m tribution made by Lady Caroline not in cash, as well as a £1.1m home in only to the family, but to the Con-Belgravia, another £800,000 home in Dorset and £400,000 worth of jewellery, cars and other items. Money recognising.
Mr Justice Wilson described she retains from her marriage brings

the total to £10.5m. In a public judgment delivered af-ter a private hearing, the judge said

Lady Caroline as "a beautiful cre-ter a private hearing, the judge said Lady Caroline as "a beautiful cre-



stylish woman". She had married Sir Terence when she was 22 and he was 29. She was "neither grasping nor disran empire during the 30-year mar-riage - something Sir Terence with his "bealthy ego" had difficulty in honest", and her contribution was " in every sense outstanding". Lady Caroline was one of the four

principal founders of the furnishing chain Habitat, and had forsaken her own career to work for the first shop. Sir Terence had conceded that his

Terence Conran (right) and his former wives Shirley (far left) and Caroline

ex-wife had been an excellent mother and had "provided him with what he calls active home support", but disputed her contribution to his success, said the judge.

He continued: "He is, in my

judgement, totally convinced that the wife has made no such contributions and that any award against him constructed even part by reference to them would be perverse.

But it can be difficult for for a man with a healthy ego who has achieved vertiginous success to look down and discern a contribution other than his own".

But ... "when everything is added together there is only one conclusion ~ the wife's energy was almost as prodigious as that of the husband; and her contribution to the welfare of the family in every sense was out-





£2m for lost Hals portrait

Stephen Goodwin Heritage Correspondent

A de la constantina

A painting of St John the Evangelisi by the 17th Century Dutch master Frans Hals, which had been lost for 180 years, was bought by an anonymous bidder for five times the price expected. One of a set of four Evangelists acquired by Catherine the Great of Russia, it fetched £1.92m in a sale of Old Masters at Sotheby's yester-

Catherine acquired the set from Baron van Borck, minis-ter to the King of Prussia in 1773. They remained in the Imperial Hermitage in St Peters-burg until 1812 when they were among 30 paintings sent on the orders of Tsar Alexander I to churches in the Crimea.

After that, the location of the set remained a mystery until 1959 when Luke and Matthew were discovered in a storeroom

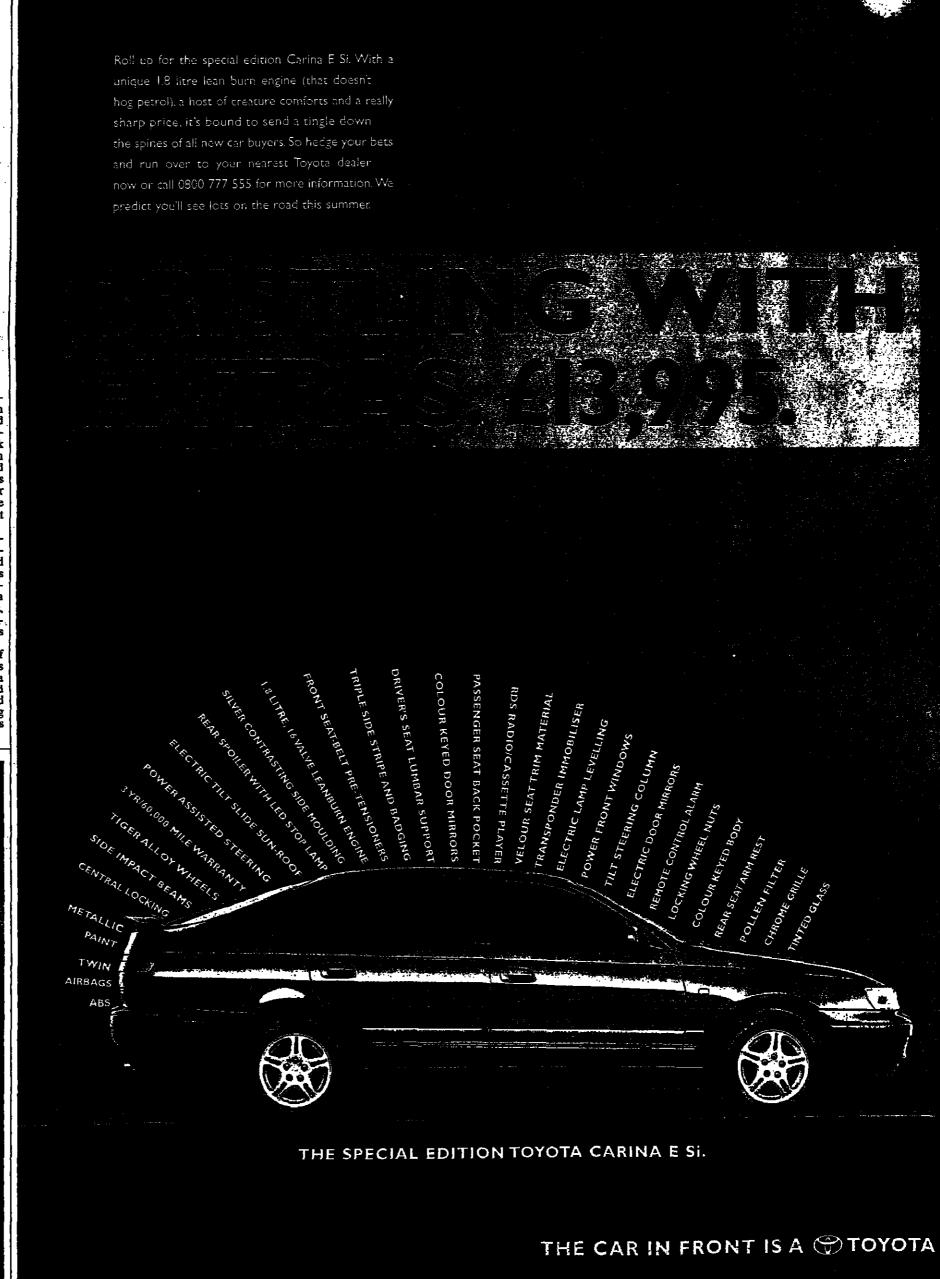
of the Odessa Museum. The two carried an attribu-

tion to an unknown 19th century Russian painter, but both paint of their Hermitage inventory number. Saint Mark surfaced at auction in Milan in 1955, repainted as a bearded man in a ruff. The painting was confirmed as a Hals only after being cleaned in 1973 when the artist's monogram and St Mark's lion were revealed.

The long-lost fourth Evan-gelist was submitted to Sotheby's for sale by an un-named woman who had no idea of its significance. St John is poryoung man with his attributes, the gospels and eagle. The other three saints are portrayed as

old men, as is usual.

Alexander Bell, head of Sotheby's Old Master paintings department, said: "This is a beautiful image, in untouched state, which displays the fluid brushwork and bold handling that are the hallmarks of this great painter."





after the budget

Employees face big income loss on retirement

Roger Trapp

Employees throughout Britain face a reduction of up to 15 per cent in their retirement benefits as a result of the Budget's attack on dividend tax credits. financial advisers said yesterday.

Experts predict widespread underfunding for retirement. Martin Slack, of actuaries Lane Clark & Peacock, said the move broke "the fundamental trust" between the Government and the public on which pension provision had been based. Actuaries calculate that a male of 35 expecting to retire at 65 and contributing 10 per cent of his £30,000 salary could, until Wednesday's speech, have expected a pension of £44,259 a year. But the loss of the tax credit could reduce that to £39,036

- a 12-per-cent reduction. The problem stems from Gordon Brown's ending of what has been seen as a perk for a handful of City institutions. But it is not that simple. The tax stitutions to receive dividends credit on dividends that results from a facet of corporate taxation known as Advance Corporation Tax (ACT) might look

like a target whose only victims are pension funds, which are not only faceless but also do not have a vote. But recent lobbying demonstrated that the potential ramifications go beyond the Square Mile.

ACT is a by-product of the system introduced in 1973 to try to reduce double taxation and is triggered when a corporation pays a dividend. The company pays shareholders a dividend net of the basic rate of income tax - 20 per cent - and pays the tax direct to the Inland Revenue on behalf of the shareholders.

But the real beneficiaries are those that do not pay tax - mostly tax-exempt institutions, such as pension funds, which account for 50 to 60 per cent of UK share ownership. They can reclaim the ACT paid by corporations on their behalf and receive substantial extra income in the form of gross dividends.

It has long been assumed that this extra "incentive" for City inhas accounted for the British disease of short-termism by diverting funds away from investment in research and

development and related areas. But many accountants ar-gue that even with the cut in corporation tax the effect of the change will be to reduce investment because corporate cashflow will be hit by having to pay more to institutions to persuade them not to invest else-

where or into their pension

The approximately 6 million people in personal-pension schemes will have to make up the shortfall by making addi-tional contributions of 1.5 per cent to 2 per cent of their salaries. However, many - par-ticularly the self-employed will already be making their maximum contributions and must therefore face reduced benefits. What happens to the 4 million-odd people in occupational plans will depend on whether their employers have final-salary or defined-contribution schemes. Companies with final-salary schemes are obliged to make up the difference, but a company can change the basis of its pension scheme or even wind it up at will.

End to pensions holiday, page 22



Grey area: Thanks to Gordon Brown, pensioners may not find it so easy to holiday take that holiday of a lifetime

Price of postage may have to rise

Roger Trapp and Chris Godsmark

The Post Office and British Telecom are among the first companies to hint at the effect the abolition of the tax credit on Advanced Corporation Tax will have on them.

Though the reduction in cor-

blow, actuaries still calculate that the ending of the tax credit for pension funds will add about 10 per cent to the liabilities of companies operating occupational schemes.

Many local authorities which have already seen their funds se-

poration tax from 33 per cent verely stretched by government to 31 per cent has softened the cuthacks, warned that council tax may have to rise, or services cut, as they seek to make up the

shortfall in their pension funds. The Post Office would not rule out an increase in the price of postage stamps yesterday after the Chancellor's removal of pension fund tax relief

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left the organisation with a bill of around £150m.

Executives from the Post Office were yesterday seeking a meeting with the Department of Trade and Industry to discuss calculate the precise cost of the measure. "It's just too early to say what the precise impact is. You couldn't say there will be £130m raised last year when postage stamp prices rose by Ip.
The Post Office's two pension

funds could see filbn knocked off their filbh value. This missing link is what the DTI will say about our ability to meet Treasury financing limits," said a spokesman.

Though the Post Office this week revealed record profits of £577m for last year year, it had to pay £285m straight back to the Treasury and a further the health of the pension fund, £216m in corporation tax, leaving a buffer of just £76m. This year the sum paid into Treasury coffers will increase to £313m. a source of long-standing concern to Post Office directors

who wanted freedom from Ex-

chequer constraints.
The spokesman said the Office would need a detailed re-view of the fund before it equid

a stamp rise, you couldn't say there won't be a stamp rise." Though stamp prices have been fruzen until at least April 1998, this week the Post Office could not guarantee it would

stick to its pledge.

BT also expected to have to put further cash into its £30n pension fund yesterday. There obviously will be an effect on us. BT is committed to maintaining said a spokeswoman.

The 119,000 employee members pay contributions of 6 per cent, matched by 9.5 per cent from BT. The fund had a surplus

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£25,000-49,999	6.25	5.00
£10,000-24,999	6.00	4.80
£1-9,999	0.50	0.40
90 Day Notice Acco	unt" - Paid Mos	thly
£100,000+		
£50,000-99,999	6.25	5.00
£25,000-49,999	6.00	4.80
£10,000-24,999	5.75	4.60
£1-9,999	0.50	0.40
60 Day Notice Accou	nt** - Paid Ann	mallo
£50,000+	5.50	4.40
£25,000-49,999	5.25	4.20
£10,000-24,999	4.80	3.84
£5,000-9,999	3.75	3.00
£500-4,999	3.50	2.80
£1-499	0.50	0.40
60 Day Notice Accou	nt** - Paid Mos	nthlv
£50,000+	4.50	3.60
£25,000-49,999	4.25	3.40
£10,000-24,999	3.80	3.04
£5,000-9,999	2.75	2.20
£500-4,999	2.50	2.00
£1-499	0.50	0.40
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after the budget

Blunkett cuts benefit for work-shy youth

Barrie Clement and Anthony Bevins

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Unemployed youngsters who drop out of the Government's £3.5 bn Welfare to Work programme for no good eason will have their benefits re-

David Blunkett, Secretary of State br Education and Employment, selled out the details of his New Deal for the young which will grant tlem "rights" and demand obliga-tions and will be compared to the

noved completely, ministers re-

tough "Workfare" Schemes in the USA.

Introducing his crusade to get people off benefit and into jobs. Mr Blunkett said: "No one except those with disabilities or very good cause should refuse to take up the option to earn their own living." Unlike pre-vious schemes the watchwords for the new regime would be "Quality, con-

tinuity and employability", he said. When sanctions were imposed on the "workshy" by the Conservative Government under the Jobseekers' Allowance scheme, similar

and by Alan Howarth, the Conservative who subsequently defected to Labour and now serves as a Minister in Mr Blunkett's depart-

The big difference now, according to Ministers, is that young people will be offered quality options.

As Mr Blunkett gave the Commons details of the new sanctions process last night, there was no sign of protest or dissent from the two

dozen backbenchers in the Chamber.

Mr Blunkett told the House: "I

suaded that this is hope, not punishment." One new Labour MP even broke Commons convention with a short burst of clapping when Mr Blunkett ended his Budget de-

Under the Welfare to Work programme, 178,000 jobless people between the ages of 18 and 24 and who have been out of work or training for more than six months would be

forced to make themselves available.

penalties were denounced by Labour know that young people will be per- part of the "gateway" to the new sys-

Each participant will have an individual employment service advisor and, if necessary, will receive help with basic numeracy and literacy. Some may find jobs during this period which could last up to four

Participants would then progress to one of four options: A job with an employer each of

whom would receive £60 a week for The New Deal scheme begins up to 26 weeks. An additional £750 with a programme of counselling as would be paid to the employer for

one day's education or training a

A placement with the Government's Environment Task Force. which will include day-release for education or training. Participants will receive a grant of £400 each. ■ Work with a voluntary organi-

sation including periods of training. ■ The opportunity for those without qualifications to take up full-time education or training for a period of up to 12 months.

Where young people refuse all the options a government-appointed

whether to cut off their Johseekers' Allowance, or remove 40 per cent of it for those with dependants.

Under the old JSA regime they had to wait two weeks to resume payments, on appeal. Under the New Deal they would have to wait four weeks. A single person receives on-

£38.90 a week ISA. Those classified as vulnerable, normally people with children or dependants, but also those with disabilities or chronic sickness, would

Councils forced to spend on school buildings

Lucy Ward Education Correspondent

Ministers are to force local authorities to spend their education windfall from the Budget on raising standards rather than teachers' salaries by feeding some of the cash into a special fund devotec to government-set projects.

Government sources yesterday said a proportion of the £835m extra money for English education authorities for next year would be distributed as part of the Grants for Education Support and Training (Gest) programme.

To push authorities to contribute more towards Gest, the Government plans to change the balance of funding for the programme. Where now the Government contributes 60 per cent of the total cost of projects and authorities pay the rest, councils will now be asked to share the cost equally.

The overall total in the pot will also rise by £60m in 1997-8 compared with his year, with the Government and loal authorities each contributing

The government sources said last light: "This is one way of ensuring that sime of the extra grant we are giving authorities next year is focused on liteacy and numeracy and other aspects o the White Paper."



Schools project: The Chancellor has promised £1.3bn over the next five years to renovate dilapidated buildings

Education Secretary David Blunkett yesterday wrote to LEAs setting out his concern that the extra money The paper, "Excellence in Schools", should be spent on raising standards.

provided is used specifically for the benefit of schools in your authority."

Authorities are likely to be less content with ministers' tactics to control in literacy and numeracy. But he preor raising standards in the classroom. therefore that the extra funding being policy officer for the Local Govern- ernment's decision to reduce its pairs on school buildings.

ment Association, said authorities proportional contribution to Gest were entirely in agreement with govemment objectives on raising standards

spending.
The Budget also brought authorities a surprise £1.3bn over the life of the nent to tackle the backlog of re-

Photograph: Tom Pilston

Hospital building goes private

Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

The Government has given the go ahead for 12 hospitals to be built and run by the private sector with private finance for use by NHS patients.

The hospitals, costing £1.3hn, will be staffed by NHS doctors and nurses, but the buildings will be owned by the private sector and leased back to the NHS.

Ministers could not say how much the leasing would cost, but insisted that it was the best deal for the taxpayer. Alan Milburn, the Health Minister, made it clear that future hospital building will depend on similar private finance initiatives. He said the projects announced yesterday are usbering in a new cra for the NHS.

"Now it is PFI or bust," he The 12 schemes are the

biggest capital programme in the history of the NHS and the money comes on top of an ex-tra £1.3bn for the NHS for next year announced in the Budget by the Chancellor.

Ministers are resisting demands for more money for the current financial year, in spite of discovering that their deficits now total more than £300m, but officials said the allocation of made earlier than usual, around ernment,

October, to enable hospitals to plan ahead to avoid the threatened winter crisis.

The approved PFI schemes include three new hospitals near Tony Blair's Sedgefield constituency, in North Durham, Bishop Auckland and South Tees. Denying there was any connection, Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, said only two hospitals had been built in the north east in the last 20 years under the Tories

A second wave of schemes, which failed to meet the Government criteria, will be launched next Spring.

In all, 23 were rejected, including projects at the famous "Jimmy's" in Leeds - St James's University Hospital NHS Trust, and a new hospital costing £29m at Stone Grove for the Central Sheffield NHS Trust. They will be told to stop work on their contracts, although they will be reconsidered for the second wave in the New Year.

The 12 projects approved are: North Durham, South Buckinghamshire, Calderdale, Carlisle, Hereford, Wellhouse. Worcester, Bishop Auckland, South Manchester, South Tees, Swindon and Bromley.

Two other private schemes, for Norwich and Norfolk and at Dartford and Gravesham, were

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The Principles people pull out of Burma

UK stitched up by Burma junta

Andrew Marshall on Burton Group's decision that followed vesterday's Independent report

The Burton Group said that it was severing its business links with Burma yesterday, immediately before a BBC Newsnight documentary was due to document its ties to the country.

The Burton Group has today instructed its suppliers to place no further contracts for sourcing from Burma, and to terminate all existing contracts by no later than the end of this year." said a statement, "It is the Burton Group's policy to listen to its customers and this decision has been taken following a review of customer opinion towards merchandise sourced

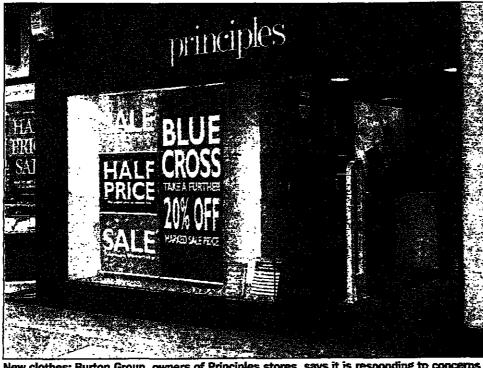
Britain's largest retailers, owns Burton Menswear, Debenhams, Dorothy Perkins, Evans, Topshop and Top Man, and Principles.

The Independent reported yesterday that Burton was one of several British companies which sourced its clothes from Burma. However, a spokesperson for the company said that the timing of the pull-out was completely unrelated to either the report in The Independent or the BBC programme, set to be broadcast last night.

Instead, they said that it was the result of comment from cus-reiterated. om Burma."

tomers, who had expressed
The Burton Group, one of unhappiness with the policy of

Aung San Suu Kyi won the
1991 Nobel Peace Prize for her



New clothes: Burton Group, owners of Principles stores, says it is responding to concerns over Burma, where the junta benefits from child lebour

buying from Burma. "We have a policy of listening to our custhe spokesperson

non-violent campaign for council never honoured the paign against Burton's invest-democracy in Burma, a year af-result. ment, and regarded this as a sucter the opposition, led by her National League for Democracy, won parliamentary elec- was very good news. It has

The Burma Action Group said that the announcement tions. The ruling military mounted a letter-writing cam- Mahon, co-ordinator of the

cess. "It goes to show that UK consumers are increasingly eth-

signal to the military in Burma of increasing world isolation." According to official Burmese figures, Britain is in

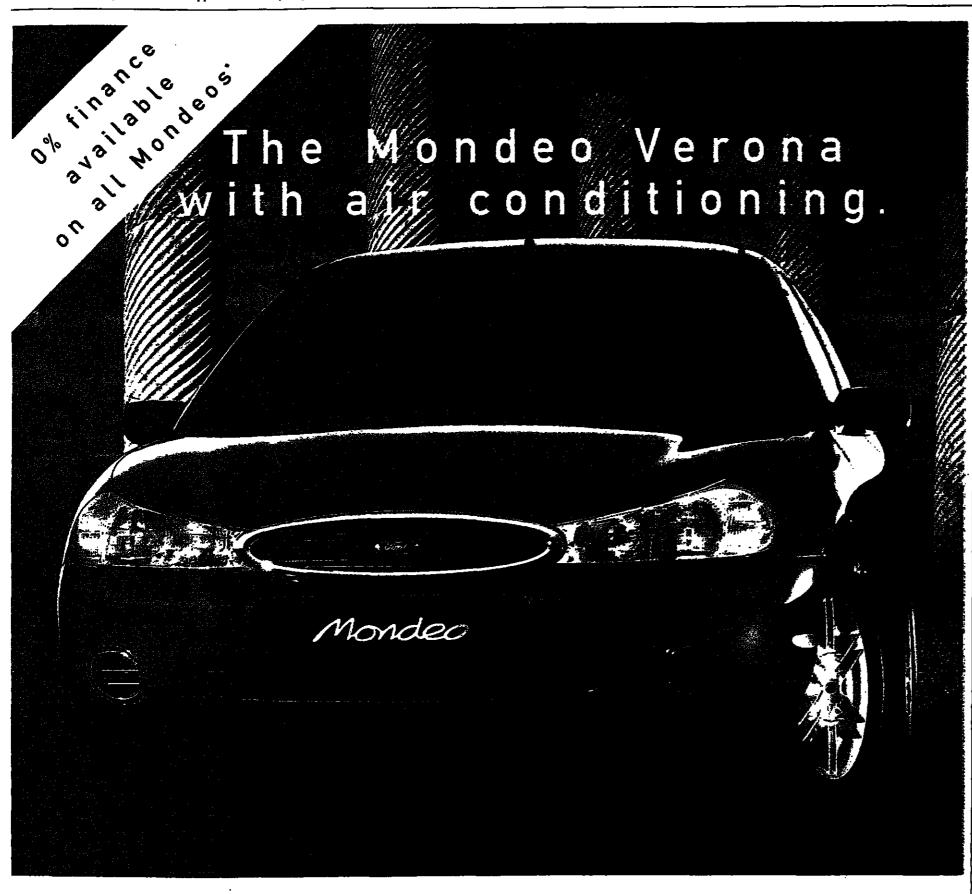
the league table of investors in Burma, with over \$660m (£400m) of British investors' money invested last year. Most of this is accounted for by stakes in the gas and oil sector. but there is also considerable interest in buying garments from the country, one of the world's lowest cost suppliers.

Many American companies have already retreated fron, Burma. When it left the country, the jeans manufacture; Levi Strauss said: "Under cur rent conditions, it is not possible to do business in Burma without directly supporting the military government and a pervasive violations of hump

rights."

The Government said ysterday it would consider signing a number of international fuman rights accords as pain ofts commitment to make huran rights a central goal of its breign policy, Reuters repeas. Foreign Office minister pay Lloyd told 20 human right or-ganisations that the Government planned to launch a mior review of its international hu-

man rights policy. In particular, it would domine whether to acced to protocols to the EuropeanConvention on Human Right and the International Covenant on second place after Singapore in Civil and Political Right



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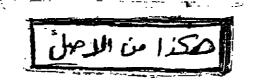
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significant shorts

Bosnian Serb president dissolves parliament

The Bosnian Serb president yesterday dissolved parliament, which is dominated by her rivals - allies of the war-crime suspect Radovan Karadzic. But the legislature was likely to defy her and further escalate tensions. Airs Playsic said her decree was justified because "the functioning of legal order ... is in a serious crisis in almost all fields." She said the police were "organising criminal activities", she was being ignored by the government, and parliament had been "carrying out orders from the informal centres of power" - an allusion to Mr Karadzic. Parliament is scheduled to meet today in Karadzic's Parliament is senequired to meet the mountain stronghold of Pale, east of Sarajevo. .

AP - Belgrade

Fears grow for Nigerian poll

The postponement of elections has Nigerian opposition groups questioning whether the military regime will keep its promise to cede power to civilians next year. General Sani Abacha promised in 1995 to return power to civilians on 1 October 1998. On Wednesday, his Transition Implementation Council set presidential and gubernatorial elections were set for 1 August 1998. It was the first time a date for the presidential vote had been announced, but General Abacha had said earlier that governors for the country's 30 states and one federal territory would be elected late this year.

Forces' gay ruling challenged

The US Justice Department will appeal against a federal judge's ruling that the armed forces' "don't ask, don't tell policy violates gays' rights to equal participation in national defence. In New York, District Judge Eugene Nickerson has ruled that a military "called on to fight for the principles of equality and free speech embodied in the United States Constitution should embrace those principals in its own ranks". The issue is expected to be decided eventually by the Supreme Court.

Japan scales down oil disaster

Embarrassed officials said the oil spill from the Dianto Grace supertanker in Tokyo Bay, initially thought to be of record proportions, was only one-tenth the size previously. estimated. They also said human error appeared to be responsible for the incident, in which the supertanker and over a reef in shallow water. Officials had estimated the spill at 13,400 tonnes, which would have made it the biggest ever in Japan. Yesterday, however, they revised it to 1,315 tonnes.

Reuters – Yokopama:

Saudi step to democracy

A Saudi-owned newspaper said Saudi Arabia would raise the number of delegates in its consultative Shura Chuncil to 90 from 60, expanding popular participation in the country's first representative body. Reuters - De

In-flight exposure

He was caught with his pants down in a lavatory during a transatlantic flight but insists he is innocent. Raviv Laor says he was not sneaking a smoke. Now he is suing Air France for \$12m (£7m) after he was dragged from the lavatory with his trousers around his ankles and toilet paper in his hand. Mr Laor claims a flight attendant wrongly thought he was smoking after a malfunctioning smoke alarm went off.

Mafia bomber arrested

Gaspare Spatuzza, one of Italy's most sought-after Mafia killers who was wanted for a series of 1993 bombings that killed 10 people, has been arrested, police said.

Investigators say Spatuzza played a leading role in
organising car bomb attacks in Milan. Rome and Florence
that killed 10 people in 1993. The bombs also damaged Florence's Uffizi Gallery and two churches in Rome in the



Accused of car bombing: Police escorting Gaspare Spatuzza in Palermo yesterday Photograph: Reuters

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Riding high: People in

be keeping a watchful

Macau are looking forward to rejoining the People's Republic, but will

maintain things as they are." But there is wariness. "In two years we'll be part of China, so we're happy," says Jaffe Lei, a student of marketing, "But I feel worried, because I don't know what will happen. If things go badly in Hong Kong, that's what we must watch.

Hong Kong and Macau just want a good life, and want to

Already, some in Macau are watching nervously. They al-ready know Peking is capable of changing its mind on crucial issues. Macau government publications boast "No Chinese troops will be stationed here." This week, however, a Chinese spokesman appeared to question that statement, causing a lit-tle flurry of concern, "I was scared to see tanks coming into Hong Kong, on the television. If that happened here, it would be terrible," said one woman in Macau this week, "As a Chinese person, I will celebrate [1999]. But I have to struggle with myself, because I'm a little scared."

internationa

rma Countdown begins to handover of China's next outpost

Ste Crawshaw Mau

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> Theree 17-year-old boys had justinished playing squash. An remarkable way of spending sainy afternoon, you might thin Except for one unusual circustance. They had just steppe out of the arrivals hall at theorder between the Por-tugue colony of Macau and the Peple's Republic of China. The bys live in Macau. They had ppped across into the neighboring Communist country forheir game. It is cheaper anceasier for the boys to book thir weekly squash game in Chin than in Macau.

In sort: reunification between Ascau and mainland China his already begun, even if it is noyet official. Soon it will be. Nowhe British handover of Hong King is complete, attention is aready turning to the next charge of the guard. The ing to late at night.

The entire territory – the peninsula with the main town,

handover date is 20 December 1999. The Chinese government is planning to install a Macau countdown clock in Tiananmen Square, similar to the Hong Kong clock which stopped on Monday night. Macau is a rundown kind of

place. It has some lurking charm in some of its half-Mediterranean corners halustraded balconies, stuccoed mansions, restaurants serving vinho verde, even an abundance of Mediterranean-style moneds. But it has less self-confident vibrancy than nearby Hong Kong.

Above all, it is famous for

gambling, which is by far the biggest earner - bringing in half the colony's income. Many of the casinos are open 24 hours. Hotel shuttle buses take guests to the casino from early morn-



and two islands, joined by bridges to the mainland - is much smaller than Hong Kong, with a population of 400,000 as opposed to Hong Kong's 6 million. But just as great a contrast is the difference in political climate. Hong Kong has be-come a place of political drama. In Macau, there has been little

democracy is so popular. Here, life is so calm.'

Macau was always an odd kind of colony. Unlike Hong Kong, it was never seized by force. In the 16th century, the Portuguese simply moved in. Strictly speaking, it is not even a Portuguese colony but "Chinese territory under Portuguese hint of rebellion. As one gov-administration". The fine dis-erament official noted: "In tinction will become even finer Hong Kong the concept of after 1999, when Macan, like

Hong Kong, will be a "special administrative region" of the People's Republic, with a high

degree of autonomy".
What that means is anybody's guess - just as in Hong Kong, 40 miles across the water. Officially everybody in Macau is keen on the impending changes. There were "ourturn-next" celebrations in Macau this week and a chanted countdown to Monday midnight in the central square. Officials are keen to emphasise the rosy relationship with China - with none of the frictions that have bedevilled the relationship between London and Peking, and especially between Chris Patten in Government House and the

But there is nervousness, too, in this sleepy place. Portugal has always had a much more arm's length relationship

with its colony than Britain with Hong Kong. After the revolution of 1974, the new Socialist government in Lisbon even tried to give the territory back. The Chinese answer: Don't call us, we'll call you."

Unlike Hong Kong, Macau has made little progress to-wards fully democratic elections - though officials point out it has moved steadily in the right direction. The first limited

Taiwan repulses motherland's grasp

Richard Lloyd Parry [†]aipei

aiwan's president. Lee Teng lui, vigorously denied the sugstion of his Communist rival, esident Jiang Zemin, that Taiinto union with the Comunist government of China.

'I would like to take this histic opportunity to solemnly pelaim that Taiwan is not Ing Kong," he said at a recaion held for foreign jour-ants in Taipei yesterday. The dermination and achievemus of the 21.5 million peoplef the Republic of China on Taian, in their pursuit of deneracy and defence of freedon cannot be ignored or neged. We shall never give up our emocratic institutions."

Yderday's event was clearly intened to counteract remarks madery President Jiang at the ceremny marking the handover c Hong Kong to Chinese rule of Tuesday. There, Mr Jiang the mainland since 1949 when

promised to "unswervingly promote peaceful reunification of the motherland in accordance with the principle of one country, two systems' ... eventually resolving the Taiwan question". Since then, Taiwan's leaders have insisted that in will eventually follow Hong until Peking embarks on democratic reforms, reunification is out of the question.

Taiwan has trade and investments worth tens of billions of dollars with Hong Kong; under British rule, the colony also served as a station for indirect trade between Taiwan and the Communist mainland. To the relief of many in Taipei, the new chief executive of Hong Kong, Tung Chee Hwa, had a meeting yesterday with Koo Chen Fu, Taiwan's representative on relations with the mainland.

Technically, the meeting was private": Communist officials insisted that all contacts berween Hong Kong and Taiwan must be approved by Peking.

Taiwan has been divided from

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the forces of the nationalist Knomintang fled there after they were defeated in the civil war by the Communist People's Liberation Army. The Republic of China, as Taiwan's rulers insist on referring to it, has long claimed it is the legitimate Chinese government. Peking regards Taiwan as a

and more countries have transferred diplomatic recognition from Taipei to Pelong. Butain took the step in 1950 but until this week, Taiper's official position was that Hong Kong should be re-stored to Taiwanese sovereignty. Taiwan has offered to engage

in talks with Peking on an equal footing, but so far has been snubbed. 'A model on the lines of Hong Kong and Macau is by no means acceptable," said Lien Chan, Taiwan's vice president and prime minister yesterday. "Unification must be accomplished on the basis if freedom, democracy and equal distribution of wealth."

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Poll position: Albanians take cover in a park in front of the central electoral building in Tirana yesterday as shooting erupted after monarchists, demanding a revision of poll results, marched from a nearby square Photograph: Reuters

Jospin targets rich for emergency tax

John Lichfield Paris

The most profitable French companies, and the wealthiest French individuals, face an emergency tax levy later this year to help France qualify for the Franceau single Currency.

the European single currency.

Dominique Strauss-Kahn, the finance minister, said yesterday that a "light" levy on business and individuals may be necessary if the state of public finances proves to be worse than expected. An audit is due to be completed in two weeks' time.

His comments provoked anger in the business community and among centre-right politicians, who pointed out that the Socialists had campaigned during the election in May on a promise not to raise taxes. They had also campaigned on a promise to keep their promises.

Government spokesmen re-

torted that this was not true: the Socialists had pledged not to raise the standard, compulsory level of taxation. Mr Strauss-Kahn was suggesting a one-off levy. This would only apply if the budget deficit this year seemed to be hopelessly wide of the guideline – 3 per cent of GDP – laid down for membership of the single currency.

The French government has already let it be known that it expects to miss this target but hopes that Germany and other EU governments will accept 3.4 or 3.5 per cent as a near miss.

The emergency levy would apply if the estimated deficit was

even higher (which seems likely).
To add to the confusion, the government itself seemed unclear who might be stung by

government itself seemed unclear who might be stung by such a tax. François Hollande, the first secretary of the Socialist Party, said on Wednesday that it would apply only to compa-

Strauss-Kahn: 'A light levy'

nies which had been "the most prosperous" in recent years. Catherine Trautmann, the official government spokeswoman, suggested it might apply to any company which had "made profits". Mr Strauss-Kahn extended the net yesterday to the

"wealthiest families".

The row was a further embarrasment for the Prime Minister. Lionel Jospin, who gave a television interview to explain how he intended to keep an apparently contradictory set of election pledges.

Mr Jospin asked, in effect, not to be judged on his first month, or his first year, in office. He said he had been given a five-year mandate and would keep his promises by the end of that period.

Mr Jospin remains popular and most French people seem ready to extend his period of grace. His core problem is his promise to respect all his promises, which has tangled the government in ever more complex skeins of sophistry.

O.K.II.

The decision last week not if reverse the closure of the Remault factory in Belgius seemed a direct breach of promise to reopen the case. Make the promised only to "reopen dessier", not o force a different decision.

The vague commitments greater EU emphasis on ground and jobs at the summit in a sterdam fell short of the depaign pledge to posh the wile European single currency direction. Yes, said Mr Join, but it is just a first step.

The tax row brings hirlato even more hazardous tertuy. To meet the EMU guidines and honour spending places. Mr Jospin needs the ecolomy to grow faster than the great annual estimate of 2 pecent. But any suggestion tilt his government will be anti-kiness and anti-profit could indermine investment and issuess confidence and, thereog, growth.

Thank God for O-level history and Russian nostalgia

It takes nerves of steel just to have a drink in the bar of the Hotel Tajikistan. This establishment, in the heart of its eponymous country's capital, Dushanbe, is a is a byword for awfulness among the handful of Western travellers unfortunate enough to have to stay here —a typical Soviet-era monolith, with the usual scanty and inedible food, surly service, dysfunctional telephones and televisions and life-threatening lifts.

What gives the place its special flavour, however – and in the bar most of all – are the officers of the 201 Russian peace-keeping division. Russia still commands about 20,000 troops along the southern border with Afghanistan, and when not on border duty these officers reside on the hotel's top two floors. Their tours of duty can last for years: many are half-crazed with boredom.

with boredom. At that time I hadn't heard the story of the drunken major who hired a prostitute and then, enraged by his vodka-induced impotence, emasquiated himself with a pistol shot. But the peace deal that will put an end to Tajikistan's five-year civil war is still unsigned, which means Dushanbe is still subject to a self-imposed curfew. The evenings can be long. One night, attracted by the sound of Russian drinking songs from down the hall, I went to investigate.

Inside, the singing turned out to be from an old tape recorder running at maximum volume. Adjusting my eyes to the almost total absence of light, I negotiated my way around three young men who were swaying dangerously in the middle of the floor and asked the barman for a beer. He shook his head: "Niet beer. Only vodka".

He slapped a dirty tumbler on the bar top and sloshed vodka into it from a bottle marked Cossack. There were no pub measures here. I took a sip – it was lukewarm and smelled not unlike cleaning fluid – and retreated to a dark corner table that was sticky with dirt.

The three dancing men fol-

lowed my movements closely: the only two other customers in the bar got up from their table by the door and left. The in-comprehensible drinking song blared on, jangly and abrasive. Then one of the dancers sat down opposite and stared at me for a long time. He didn't speak, From time to time he swigged from a bottle of Cossack, throwing it back like it was nothing at all. I offered him a cigarette: he took it with a cruel smile, crushed it, and sprinkled it on the floor. I smiled on, struggling as nonchalantly as possible. This puzzled him: he hadn't spotted me measuring the dis-tance to the exit. "Why," he said at last, "are you so relaxed?" It happened to be Remembrance Day in Dushanbe: earDUSHANBE DAYS

lier there had been a parade honour of the fallen of the Se ond World War. They still to such things seriously in the II mer Soviet Union. Many of bystanders were in tears as a verteans shuffled by, stoopedneath the weight of medalin shrunken chests. And so I we the only possible answer this question: that I was Englished that since he was a Russa I

knew I was among friend!

The soldier was normpressed. "You're a foreiger,"
he said, spitting on the flod. "All
foreigners are filth. All his is
your fault."

your fault.

What's my fault?"

He waved angrily around the room, but he meant everything – the dinginess or the fir. the dreariness of his life in the, army, perhaps even the ollapses of the Soviet Union self. It crossed my mind that he, too; was a foreigner in Tajikitan, but it was hardly the moment to point that out. He could not have been more than 24. And then his friends came to join ut collapsing heavily into the sea and blocking all chance of d

'All foreigners are filth,' said the soldier. 'And all this s your fault.'

cape. "We were allies 5t years ago," I said carefully. Your country and my county defeated Hitler together.

He swore and brought his face to within an inch a mine. "You have no idea howe suffered," he hissed. "No idea at

all."
"That's not true," I countered. "Everyone in an ecuantry knows what happened at Stalingrad. Russian resistance there turned the tide of the var. It was heroic. My country no, wait, the entire world is injected. For

At this the other two reared with approval. The lirst soldier looked put out, mattering that he still reckoned all foreigners were filth. Then Liunderstood: he was from Volgdurad, the former Stalingrad. I'd said exactly the right thing. His friends slapped my shoulder and forced one filthy vodkay after another on me, finally insisting that I join them in a mad spinning dance among the tables and chairs. The barman looked on, bered and oblivious; and fur the first time in my life I thanked God for O-level history.

JJ Fergusson

"MY DAD'S CAR IS BETTER THAN YOUR DAD'S CAR!"*

(Fat's official, BBC top GEAR MAGAZINE VOTED THE FIAT BRAVA FAMILY CAR OF THE YEAR.)

Because you want your kids to enjoy the best of everything, you really must take a look at the Fiat Brava. After all, BBC Top Gear magazine rate it this year's best family ear. That's partly because the Brava doesn't look like

a family car. (Put a cardboard box next to the photo above. See, no resemblance whatsoever.) And in this case appearances are not deceptive. The Brava is also stylish and carefully designed on the inside. Of course, careful design means safe design. The Brava ELX features a

driver's airbag. ABS and remote control central locking. And for convenience, electric door mirrors, windows and sun-roof. The thoughtful inclusion of a 6 speaker CD compatible radio-cassette means you can drown the sound of

be the only ones to covet the Fiat Brava ELX, the car is fitted with an alarm and a Fiat CODE immobiliser. It means that only you and your sprogs can enjoy the refined 1.6 or sporty 1.8

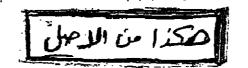
noisy offspring with a tweak of the volume button. And because Top Gear won't

enjoy the refined 1.6 or sporty 1.8 engines. (Alternatively, you could plumb for the 1.9 turbo diesel if you want to save money fast.) 1997's Top Family Car can be yours from just £11.070, on the road. All Bravas are also available with Fiat's Flexible Ensiplan*. which offers a host of

unique ways to drive a new Fiat. So what family car will get your vote? The one that's better than your kid's friend's dad's car, of course. Call 0800 71 7000. http://www.fiat.co.uk^{††} or visit your local Fiat dealer for more information.

FIAT BRAVA

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(below) just 9600 km south of the

history Alien nation.

Roswell, the US UFO capital

emergence of a small robot dealgia

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Tich US storms back to the last frontier Mars landing sparks patriotic America reaches for the stars: How Pathfinder goes in peace to the Red Planet America reaches for the stars: How Pathfinder goes in peace to the Red Planet

Mars Pathlinder lander.

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scientists as many

America reaches for the stars: How Pathfinder goes in peace to the Red Planet

clearance of just 13cm.

The Mars Rover will transmit pictures back to Earth and

be controlled by Nasa scientists, who will 'drive' it while it performs various soil and rock analyses. The

'Rover Sojourner' weighs 11.5kg and has a ground

new interest in space journeys, All the property of the proper both real and slightly fictional

Mary Dejevsky

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Seattle Committee

Washington This time last year Americans were basking in the reflected glory of Independence Day, a cinematic War of the Worlds for the Nineties, in which the US led Planet Earth to victory over diabolical space invaders to the strains of the national anthem. Tonight, as celebratory fireworks light the sky "from sea to shining sea", that triumphalist

version of Independence Day will seem almost real. After nearly a decade of introspection following the explosion of the shuttle Challenger, America is rediscovering space as a field of patriotic endeavour, and a leaner, wiser Nasa is on its way to rehabilitation. One sign of the new confidence has been the billing of today's planned landing on Mars by the Pathfinder spaceship. All being well, its para-chute-slowed landing will be shown live on television, with the peeling open of its sides and the



Alien nation: A display in Roswell, the US UFO capital

signed to plot the terrain. After a seven-month journey.
Pathfinder should make its arrival in time for brunch in New York and breakfast in Los Angeles, the first Earth visitor to Mars since the Viking missions of the Seventies. As one news-

paper put it, haxuriating in the anticipated spectacle, Mars will be "invaded by Earth". If the pictures transmitted

with sharp images broadcast live, by a new technique, from the space shuttle Columbia, which defied a thunderstorm to launch earlier this week and is. now in orbit. News bulletins show astronauts floating around their capsule in images that could come from a Cold War propaganda film. The contrast between this and the daily more pessimistic bulletins on the crippled Mir Russian space-station

ducers can intersperse them

could not be greater.

Back at home, life is imitating space come to Earth in the New Mexico town of Roswell, whose population trebled this week for a UFO fest to mark the 50th anniversary of an event (real or mythical) that put it on the map. To believers, who in-clude former Pentagon official Philip Corso, whose recent book was judged damaging enough for the Air Force to issue a 230page rebuttal, it is not only earthlings who are attracted by Roswell's charms. Col Corso and the others know a team of little grey men took to their flying saucer back in 1947 but crashed a few miles outside the town some time around Indepen-

dence Day. Col Corso, whose deadpan style and rank lend authority to his story, says the military not only spirited the wreckage away and lied to the public but also exploited the aliens' technology. Lasers, cyber-optics and the Stealth bomber are among the results, he says. Always, though, it has been the fate of the 'aliens" as much as the innovative spaceship or the alleged of-ficial cover-up that has worried Americans. Whether or not the creatures existed, there is a

general feeling that America did hadly by them. This Independence Day, the spirit of believers at Roswell and televiewing followers of Pathfinder will be a charitable:

"We come in peace". Americans, however, still do not trust the government to deliver that message. While an anniversary survey showed 35 per cent of those asked accepted that aliens landed at Roswell, a bare 25 per cent said they believed last

or intermittent, television profrom the Red Planet are fuzzy Blind find little to laugh at in myopic Magoo





David Usborne

New York Cartoonists may be the last to get the message and they will not much like it. In Nineties America, funny is not funny when it is politically incorrect. None in the industry is exempt, and including the Disney

There were squeaks of shock last month when a cartoonist for the Arizona Republic offered his version of perhaps the most famous news picture from the bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City, that of a fireman in the rubble bearing a tiny infant killed in the blast.

So upsetting to some was the drawing, published to coincide with the death penalty sentence against Timothy McVeigh, that the editor was moved the next day to publish an apology. Meant as a jah against against eapital punishment, it labelled the fireman "death penalty fa-

ing, "Please, no more killing. The fireman was replying: "Oh, stop your whining . New Disney is getting the same lesson. It is under fierce attack for its planned release next Christmus of a feature film starring actor Leslie Nielsen play-

naties" and had the child plead-

ing the long-retired cartoon character, Mr Magoo. Mr Magax is the perfect vehiele, you might think, for Nielsen. First introduced to Americans in the post-war years, Magoo was famously bungling and hopelessly myopic. Comic to most of us; offensive

to blind people.
Thus this week, the National Federation of the Blind has de-

manded that Disney suspend production of the film. It is also asking its 50,000 members to consider forgoing Disney products until the company complies.

"The Disney people have dragged Mr Magoo back from richly-deserved obscurity in the hope that Americans will think it's funny to watch an ill-tempered and incompetent blind man stumble into things and misunderstand his surroundings," said Marc Maurer, pres-

ident of the organisation.

Disney, which recently also ot hit by calls for a boycott by the Southern Baptist Church because of its alleged promotion of homosexuality, shows no sign of acquiescing to the de-mand, saying the film "does not in any way make fun or demean

Even Mr Magoo would not have to squint to see other instances of political correctness invading the cartoon world. This week came news that a character in the nationally syndicated Beetle Bailey strip, a lecherous army officer named General Amos Halftrack, will shortly be depicted attending "sensitivity training. Thus, it is hoped, the general will overcome his urge to gawp at the bosom of his secretary, a Miss Buxley. The cartoon's creator, Mort Walker, 73, agreed to the storyline, which aptly reflects the anguish over gender confusions in the real US Army, after seeing that news-

papers were dropping his car-toon because of the general. All this is going on in a country that stays up late at night to watch re-runs of Benny Hill as he cavorts across lawns in pursuit of perky nurses.



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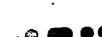
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James Stewart

In view of how secure a fixture he was destined to become in the American cinema, it is now perhaps difficult to understand what an awkward proposition James Stewart represented to casting directors at the begin-ning of his career in the 1930s. He was tall, gangling and lackadaisical, possessed of a slow and almost caricaturally drawling delivery that sounded as though, before finally emerging, his voice had to make a complete tour of the inside of his mouth; there was even a suspicion of a wisp or two of straw in his chronically unkempt hair.

If such types were common enough as supporting performers in westerns and rural melodramas, they had generally been denied access to true stardom. Stewart nevertheless became and remained a star, achieving prominence in a wide variety of genres. Moreover, in career spanning over four decades, he appeared to age as naturally and reassuringly as a member of one's own family.

Although his original country-boy bashfulness and tendency to say "Shucks !" a lot - Stewart was born in the small town of Indiana, Pennsylvania, the son of a hardware store owner were soon smoothed out in the sophisticated comedies and thrillers in which he was later to make a reputation, they never entirely disappeared. When in consequence, he was allowed to reveal hitherto unsuspected depths of character, and his candid blue eyes were invested with an unaccustomed steeliness (notably, under such directors as Alfred Hitchcock and Anthony Mann), the contrast between the psychological intensity of which he proved ca-pable and the casual behavioural charm which came so naturally to him seemed all the

more disturbing. Stewart won his sole Oscar as a cynical newspaper reporter at first contemptuous of, then bewitched by, the antics of the patrician set in George Cukor's The Philadelphia Story (1940). Yet his most memorable work resulted from close collaborations with a trio of very different film-makers: Frank Capra. Mann and Hitchcock.

As a director, Capra could fairly be described as Stewart's equivalent behind the camera: he was folksy, shrewd and basically conservative. In the first of their three films together, a 1938 adaptation of the Kaufman and Hari farce You Can't Take It With You, Stewart played a minor but pivotal role as the scion of a wealthy, stultifyingly pompous family who is about to marry into a household of ec-

centries. It was not until Mr Smith Goes To Washington (1939), however, that their ideally ... tiched talents properly cohered.

As a country-lawyer Candide confronted with the rapacious chicanery of politicians on the make, as an individual coming to the rescue of the system rather than vice versa (invariably the case with Capra's ultimately reactionary brand of sentimental populism), he embodied to perfection the "commonman" ideology of one of the American cinema's great naïve communicators. (Ironically, at the height of the Watergate débacie, Stewart, now an ageing, superpatriotic movie star, once more went to Washington to offer the embattled President Nixon his disheartening and somewhat ill-timed support.) And in It's a Wonderful Life (1946), Capra's masterpiece, he was emblematically cast as a small-town businessman dis-

preservation of the American Way of Life. With Anthony Mann, Stewart's participation was instrumental in a cycle of surprisingly complex and resonant westerns, from Winchester 73 in 1950 to The Man From Laramie in 1955. In these he played an obsessive, almost Chandlerian loner, except that it was not mean, dark city streets that he stalked but some of the most spectacular, and spectacularly filmed, landscapes of the Amer-

covering, on the brink of suicide.

just how essential he - and, by

implication, his type - had al-

ways been to the defence and

ican hinterland. The partnership proved less successful - although, in strictly commercial terms, even more popular when it strayed from Hollywood's most elemental genre into the musical biography (The Glenn Miller Story, 1954) and the militaristic melodrama (Strategic Air Command, 1955). Stewart himself, it is worth noting, had led more than a thousand plane strikes over Germany in the Second World War, winning both the Air Medal and the Distinguished Flying Cross.

But it was Hitchcock who most keenly explored the possibility of a troubled psyche lurking just beneath Stewart's easy-going surface, and the four films which they made together figure among the best of both artists. In the first, Rope (1948), based on Patrick Hamilton's stage drama about a pair of motiveless young "thrill" murderers, the subtlety and intelligence of Stewart's performance were heightened by the director's virtuoso "10-minute take" technique, which virtually dispensed

with editing. Rear Window (1954) found Stewart, as a photojournalist confined with a broken leg to a wheelchair ("an American in plaster-of-Paris" as someone once wisecracked), acting out the spectator's own voyeuristic fantasies through his fascination with the multiplicity of "screens" offered him by the courtyard windows that are all he can see from his apartment.

The Man Who Knew Too Much (1956) was a more conventional chase thriller, in which it might be said that Stewart played a Capra character marooned in a Hitchcock movie. Vertigo (1958), on the other hand, remains one of the finest, most nightmarishly magical of all American films, and Stewart gave an unforgettable performance as a mentally unbalanced ex-policeman lured not once but twice, to his doom by a frosty and nearsomnambulistic Kim Novak. In the Sixties he made three

variously memorable John Ford westerns, Two Rode Together (1961), The Man Who Shot Lib, erty Valance (1962) and Cheyenne Autumn (1964). But, with one stand-out exception, his late appearances represented not much more than a postscript to an exceptionally distinguished filmography. That exception, though - his portrait of a crafty, laconic, deceptively bumbling small-town lawyer in Otto Preminger's Anatomy of a Murder (1959) - offered not merely a distillation of the screen persona he had built up over the years but a nostalgic reprise of the unassuming but unshakeable moral values of the original Mr Smith in Washington.

Gilbert Adair

From the pulsating jazz of Duke Ellington and the jazzy credit titles designed by Saul Bass, Anatomy of a Murder proclaimed its modernity, writes Adrian Turner. No ordinary courtroom drama this, for it delves into a case of rape and murder and offers a pair of freshly laundered, though torn, ladies' panties as visible evidence.

In 1959, this was hot stuff, as was medical testimony about spermatogenesis, contraception and sexual climax. In view of this, the judge warns everyone in the courtroom (and the cinema, too) that any snickering will not be tolerated, After all, a man's life is at stake.

In the thick of things is James Stewart at his most Jimmy Stoowartish. As the small-town defence lawyer Paul Biegler -Polly to his friends - Stewart roots the film in integrity and when he gingerly handles the



Photograph: Picturegoer

panties and talks of sperm no one snickers. Perhaps not even Gregory Peck could have carried that off as well. However. Stewart did receive letters from fans saying he should not have accepted such a grubby role.

The part might have been

specifically written for him. But it wasn't. The novel by Robert Traver - the nom de plume of John Voelker, a retired judge --was an immediate best-seller, the Presumed Innocent of its day. Always on the lookout for risqué material, the producer-director Otto Preminger snapped up the screen rights, filmed it entirely on location and had the edited film ready only three weeks after shooting ended. Preminger was a big-game

hunter who stalked the Major Themes of Our Time (justice in Anatomy of a Marder, democracy in Advise and Consent. drug addiction in The Man with the Golden Arm, Israeli nationalism in Exodus, the Catholic Church in The Cardinal) and turned them all into grip-

ping melodramas, notable for their visual flourishes and their performances as much as their thematic "daring".

Stewart's character is single. wedded only to the law and to fishing. There is no proof of emotional repression, though Stewart hints at a past that remains forever a locked room why, for example, did he resign as a District Attorney? He has a secretary (Eve Arden) who ribs him about her pay-checks (he spends all the legal fees on fishing tackle) and a soused sidekick. But, as with many of his roles, he is a loner.

He also brings with him the idealism of Mr Smith Goes To Washington, the small-town innocence of It's a Wonderful Life, the daydreamer of Harvey. the gullibility of The Philadelphia Story, the vulnerability of Rear Window.

Stewart brought a simple quality to his pictures. Audiences trusted him, they liked his lanky, drawling character and his awkwardness with women.

In Anatomy of a Murder he finds himself both repelled by and attracted to Lee Remick, the flirtatious and apparent rape victim whose jealous soldier husband, Ben Gazzara, goes out and shoots the rapist, the manager of the local bar. Remick wears tight sweaters, slacks and no girdle. She is the very image of the post-Kinsey American woman not a fantasy figure like Monroe, but palpably real. Stewart has first to get rape on the agenda for the trial and then avoid the inevitable accusaton that Remick was asking for it anyway (the movie surely provided the in-spiration for the Jodie Foster

If Remick represents the new open sexuality of America. George C. Scott (in his first major role) represents another kind of "progress". Seott is the big-city District Attorney sent to molish the country hick Stewart. Their verbal sparring - Scott's slick, reptilian eloquence versus Stewart's dogged, hokey tenacity - provides one of the film's

picture The Accused).

greatest pleasures as well as supporting its underlying theme. Beneath the film's plot - its duplicities and patented "shock" witness whose revelation makes Scott nearly faint with wounded pride - is a parable about the wider morality of America. The actor clearly enjoying himself as the witty judge is Joseph P. Welch, a celebrated Boston

witch hunts. Preminger called him "the American conscience" and offered him the part after Spencer Tracy and Burl Ives turned it down. Welch's pres-ence, albeit a rather subtle one, conveys the idea that the movie is about tearing down the veils of secrecy, persecution and prurience at the end of the postwar, Eisenhower era. And it was Preminger, of course, who broke the blacklist with his next picture by putting the writer Dalton Trumbo's name on the

lawyer who was an outspoken

opponent of the McCarthy

credits of Exodus. context is crucial. He has stood California 2 July 1997.

up for old-fashioned virtues. even as he swims in a virtual cesspool. His level-headed reasoning, his appeal to common humanity, his love of fishing, all correspond to the cosy, comforting image that we have of him. No wonder he wins the case, even if his defence of temporary insanity, or irresistible 🥁 impulse, is tentative at best and that Gazzara is as sane as the next man. But afterwards, as he goes to collect his fee, he finds that Gazzara and Remick have flown - another case of irresistible impulse. All that is left is a garbage can with a broken shoe hanging on the rim.

Stewart has gone one way and America is headed in another. It was his last really major performance.

James Maitland Stewart, actor bom Indiana, Pennsylvania 20 May 1908; married 1949 Gloria McLean (died 1994; two daughters, one stepson, and one step-Stewart's presence in this son deceased); died Beverly Hills,

Marjorie Linklater



At the height of a furious quar-rel with her husband, Marjorie Linklater proclaimed the belief which animated most of her long life. "Why do you keep saying, change is bad?" she de-manded. "All change is for the best - even when it's for the worst." Since their arguments were usually conducted with an operatic intensity of noise and emotions, the startled silence which followed this thrust indicated that she had won a skirmish if not the war.

On the whole, she remained faithful to her creed throughout her turbulent and ultimately consoling marriage to the writer Eric Linklater and after his death, in promoting the arts and the environment in Orkney. Indeed, in this last period, when she helped found the Pier Arts Centre in Stromness (home of Margaret Gardner's remarkable collection of 20th-century art), assisted at the birth of the St Magnus Festival and initiated the Johnsmas Foy, a celebration of Orkney art, and the Folk Fes-

tival, now a magnet for tradi-tional musicians from both sides of the North Sea, she helped stimulate enough change to satisfy even her zest for innovation.

Born in 1909, the youngest daughter of Ian MacIntyre, a flamboyant former rugby international and MP who became an Edinburgh solicitor, she was sparsely educated at St George's School, Edinburgh, and Downe House in Berkshire, before go-ing to the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (Rada) in London.

During a short West End career, she was courted by Douglas Jardine, captain of the England XI which won the Ashes during the "Bodyline" series in Australia. The affair was doomed from the moment she found herself briefly ignored at one of his parties. Turning to the man nearest her, who happened to be the legendary batsman C.B. Fry, she said brightly, "I do hope you're not another of these awful cricket bores."

1930, and, taking up the first of innumerable causes, campaigned with Michael MacOwen for the establishment of a Scottish National Theatre. There she met Eric Linklater, 10 years her senior, and already a famous author. He admired her beauty. her taste in claret and above all .her love of Orkney, his spiritual home, where her family used to take holidays. "Blast you," she wrote soon after they were engaged. "If you can't be hap-

py with me, you ought to be ashamed of yourself." In 1933, they married and went to live in Orkney. As well as bringing up a family of four children, she took an enthusiastic part in community life, producing prize-winning dramas and playing her cello – an instrument later traded in for a donkey on the grounds that the latter made a more beautiful noise - in the local orchestra. After the Second World War, the family moved south to Ross-Attractive and high-spirited, shire, where she became a coun-she returned to Edinburgh in ty councillor, taking particular

pride in getting a secondary school built in Plockton (home of the Macbeth television series). and securing the headmastership for the great Gaelic poet Sorley MacLean. Following a successful battle to have public toilets built at popular tourist spots, she also took a certain leasure in being known as 'Ross-shire's lavatory queen'

She and Eric had achieved a

surprising harmony before his death in 1974, a quality which helped prompt her return to Orkney. In an interview, she declared "I have decided to give up sex and take up committees." Although this was not strictly true (a long-distance romance with someone in the South later led her to confess, "You can't imagine how exciting it is to travel to meet your lover on a Senior Citizens' Railcard"), her wit and style made her an extremely effective committee worker. As chairman of the Orkney Heritage Society, she persuaded the oil industry to fund a full-time archaeologist to

supervise the islands' phenom-enally rich prehistoric heritage, and when the nuclear industry proposed to mine uranium in Orkney, she led a long, successful "No Uranium" campaign against it. This was followed by other contests to stop Dounreay's reckless proposal to dump nuclear waste at sca.

When committees would not work, she took lone action and, aged nearly 80, confronted a farmer who was taking sand from a particularly beautiful beach. Euraged, he drove his digger at her, calling her a bug-ger and a whore. "Well, make up your mind," she snapped back. "I can't be both."

A fervent Scottish Nationalist, she fought vigorously for the party, distributing pamphlets well into her eighties and providing a local headquarters for her friend Winnie Ewing, the MEP for the Highlands and 1slands. Eclectically, she also housed the Natural Law Party's candidate at the last election, and worked with Laura Gri-

the student was enrolled. The

course was required to be a

It had been argued for the

claimant that where a course

had a variable character, it was

necessary to determine the

character of the course, whether

it was full-time or part-time, at

each relevant stage. It had been submitted for the Adjudica-

tion Officer that the definition

required that the course be

categorised at its outset when

the student enrolled for it and

that, once the status of student

had been acquired, it was

A course which did not re-

full-time" course of study.

mond for the restoration of the eighth-century St Boniface chapel on Papa Westray. Her enthusiasm and sense of comedy attracted to her house in Kirkwall a steady stream of Orcadians dropping in for a blether, as well as Filipino singers, Chilean refugees and Icelandic poets.

Although weakened by cancer and a failing heart, she visited friends on the day she died. Her sudden death that evening, after hours of sunshine and laughter, could be seen as the final proof of her dictum perhaps even this greatest and worst change might have been for the best.

Andro Linklater

Marjorie MacIntyre, campaigner: born Edinburgh 19 March 1909; member, Ross & Cromarty County Council, 1953-69; member, Scottish Arts Council 1957-63; Chairman, Orkney Heritage Society 1977-81; married 1933 Eric Linklater (died 1974; two sons, two daughters); died Kirkwall, Orkney 29 June 1997.

Births, Marriages & Deaths

DEATHS

DICK: George, of Waterland, Rowhook, West Susser, (Professor Emerius, London University). Died peaceful-le on 3 July, just before his \$3rd birth-day. Loved by all his family, who will miss him. He wished a family only funeral. No flowers. Donations to Amnesty International.

SWEET: George, painter, birder, died in Bristol on 29 June 1997, aged 87. Father of Stephanie, grandfather of Lucian, Funeral at Canford Crema-torium at 12 noon on Thursday 10

For GAZETTE, picase telephone 0171-293 2011 or fax 0171-293 2010.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS HeV I Chair has been a the literact form fitted, its the Perspectal Scheme of Understand Scheme (New York) but. He was not at Remember 1, the second Whole Heven, and at Remember 1, the Scheme of the Petron Noticeal Actions Scheme, on his for Lane, can be the Wester, Australe Scheme, Herman

Changing of the Guard

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. Butler and Miss C. L. MacLaren

The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Sir Robin and Lady Butler, of Herne Hill, London, l Catriona, daughter of Mr and

Mrs Iain MacLaren, of Edinburgh. Mr S, C, C, Dayes and Miss O, M, MacSherry The engagement is announced be-tween Simon, son of the late Mr Harry Dayes and of Mrs Charity Dayes, of Ashley Priors, Torquay, Devon. and Orla, daughter of the late Mr

John MacSherry and of Mrs Nuala MacSherry, of County Tyrone,

Birthdays

Prince Michael of Kent, 55: King Tauta'ahau Tupou IV of Tonga, 79; The Duke of Ahereom, Lord-Lieutenant of County Tyrone, 63; Lord Barber, former Chancellor of the Exchequer, 77; Mr Alec Bedser, cricketer, 79; Mr Eric Bedser, cricketer, 79; Dr Roger Berry MP, 49; Mr Alastair Goodlad MP. 54; Mr Roy Henderson, baritone, 98: Miss Ginn Lollobrigida, actress. 70; The Hon Francis Maude MP, 44; Miss Pam Shriver, tennis player, 35; Mr Neil Simon, playwright, 70: Pro-

Mr Colin Welland, actor and play-wish, 63: Lord Wyatt of Weeford. wright, 63; Lord Wyatt of We former chairman, Horserace Total-

Anniversaries

Births: Louis Burt Mayer, Hollywood "movie mogul", 1885; Daniel Louis Armstrong, jazz trumpeter and singer, 1900. Deaths: Samuel Richardson, novelist and author of Pamela, 1761; Marie Curie (Marja Sklodowska), chemist, 1934. On this day: the American Declaration of In-dependence was adopted, 1776; Karl Heinrich Marx and Friedrich Engels published the Communist Manifesto, 1848. Today is Independence Day in the United States of America and the Feast Day of St Andrew of Crete, St Bertha of Blangy, St Efizabeth of Portugal, St Odo of Canterbury, St Ulric of Augsburg and The Martyrs of Dorchester.

Synagogue services

Details of synagogue services to be held tomorrow may be obtained by telephoning the following. Sabbath begins in London at 9.06pm.

United Synogogues: 0181-343 8989, Fed United Synapogues: 0181-343 8969. Federation of Synapogues: 0181-202 2263. Union of Liberal and Progressive Synapogues: 0171-580 1663. Reform Synapogues of Great Britain: 0181-349 4731. Spanish and Portropueso Jews Congregation: 0171-289 2573. New London Synapogue (Masorti): 0171-328 1026.

Part-time student was eligible to claim income support LAW REPORT

cial Security v Webber; Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Evans, Lord Justice Peter Gibson and Lord Justice Hobhouse) 1 July 1997

A person pursuing a part-time modular university course was not a student for the purposes of the Income Support (General) Regulations 1987, and was thus eligible to claim income support.

The Court of Appeal upheld the decision of the Social Security Commissioner that the claimant was entitled to income Support.

In September 1992 the Lord Justice Hobbouse said University, aiming to achieve a Bsc Hons degree. The claimant had begun his studies as a fulltime student, but after the first year, because he had failed to pass sufficient modules, the university told him that he could only start as a part-time student in his second year.

He applied for income sup-

port in October 1993. His application was refused by the Adjudication Officer, but his appeal to the Appeal Tribunal was allowed. The Adjudica-

Appeal Tribunal's decision. inder Singh (Solicitor, Departmet of Social Security) for the Chief Adjudication Officer; Richard Drabble OC (Peter Turvill, Oxfordshire Welfare Rights) for the claimant.

tion Officer appealed to the

Commissioner, who upheld the

claimant began a "modular that the question of law raised course" at Oxford Brookes on the appeal could be shortly stated: whether the claimant was at the material time a student as defined by the Income Support (General) Regulations

Under section 124 of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 it was a requirement of entitlement to income support that the relevant sation of the course on which

4 July 1997 person be "available for and ac-

tively seeking employment". Under regulation 10(1) of the regulations "a claimant shall not be treated as available for employment if ... he is a student during the period of study . .

In regulation 61 "period of study" was defined as meaning. "the period beginning with the start of the course of study and ending with the last day of the course or such earlier date as the student abandons it or is dismissed from it ... "Student was defined as "a person . . . who is attending a full-time course of study ... and for the purposes of this definition (a) a person shall be treated as attending it throughout any period of

term or vacation within it . . ." The general scheme of the regulations was to identify the status of "student". That status depended upon the categori-

deemed to continue.

quire full-time attendance could not be described as a full-time course. If the relevant course was not a full-time course then the relevant person never was a student coming within the definition in the Regulations. Lord Justice Peter Gibson

said that the present case could not be distinguished from Chief Adjudication Officer v Clarke and Faul [1995] ELR 259, in which it was held that an intercalated period when the student was not attending a fulltime course of study could not fairly be described as a period of either term or vacation within the course in accordance with the definition of "student" in

the Regulation 61 (a). Lord Justice Evans agreed with Lord Justice Peter Gibson, and said that the claimant was also entitled to succeed without relying on the words "throughout any period of term or vacation within it. It was one thing to treat a person as a fulltime student at times when, although such a student, he was not in fact attending the course. but quite another thing to rely upon the deeming provision in Regulation 61(a) to create a status as student which did not

Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister

exist in fact.

THE INDIGHTE

:ck.

-on--in-Iral

The Liberal Democrat general election campaign was positively

femo-centric.

We were the party that talked

about issues, our policies and the effect they would have on real lives. just as groups like Fawcett advised us women wanted. We published a clear and costed manifesto for women. Our press conferences and rallies promoted women. The campaign was heavily influenced by

However, the Women Liberal Democrats have called for a constitutional change to increase the proportions on shortlists from at least one third women to 50 per cent, thus ensuring choice and opportunity for all. But we are clear that this is only one step of many. This is not just a numbers game, JUSTINE McGUINNESS

Women Liberal Democrats London SW11

Form-filling Wimbledon

Sir: Richard Walker (Letters, 3 July) advocates "first-come, firstserved, cheap entry, tennis for the masses" - but only those "masses" living within easy reach of Wimbledon.

Those of us who live further away would prefer more tickets to be available via the equally fair ballot - one only has to remember to write in October for the necessary form. Perhaps fewer corporate hospitality tickets at higher prices would achieve both aims. MAIR GAUNT

Small men, but their poison was powerful country. Healthy scepticism about

t remains a little bewildering, even now: the "cash for questions" Lepisode has been long drawn-out and horribly damaging for the Conservative Party. But the pettiness of the MPs' greed, and the sheer smallness of their grubby dissimulation is the striking thing. This was not a great case of evil men or grand corruption: it was more the sort of thing we are used to hearing about from Piddlemarsh Borough Council. In a great democratic institution which, within living memory, controlled a huge swath of the globe, Members of the once-dominant party have been found guilty of behaving like dim and sleazy councillors caught in cahoots with a bent solicitor and a sheepskin-coated developer. For all the fine suits and self-aggrandising rhetoric of Neil Hamilton, Ian Greer and the rest, they have brought the culture of greasy tenners, cheap cheroots and car park huddles to Westminster. Small

lies; small kick-backs; small people. None of it would have come out without the angry anti-Conservative campaign of Mohamed Al Fayed and some very fine journalistic digging, notably by The Guardian, whose courage and professionalism in all this we salute. In the dim corners of the Palace of Westminster and its penumbra of up-market restaurants, deals between lobbyists, short-of-cash MPs and nervous companies would have continued to be struck. And in the

House, the paid wire-pulling, masquerading as innocent, public spirited questioning, would have carried on.

Was it in the end so awful? Was it bad enough to stain the collective reputation of Conservative MPs and subject their party, which has done so much to make modern Britain, to the angry derision of the public? After all, as so many of Mr Hamilton's apologists have been so ready to murmur, the level of corruption in France - Belgium - Italy is so much worse. Isn't it really the case that a self-important, arrogant and priggish media has got above itself and hounded fallible, silly but basically harmless men out of public life? This is the counter-accusation being thrown around, most notably in an increasingly bizarre series of attacks on the editor of The Guardian by a columnist and confidant of the Prime Minister called Paul Johnson.

The answer is that a culture that condones small lies moves swiftly to big lies, and that a political party whose members pocket modest bribes will start taking big ones. The apple's small spot of corruption will rot the whole barrel. More interesting is the reflection that, had it not been for the accident of the Fayed campaign and the press, neither the Conservative Party nor Parliament would have noticed the problem. John Major's early readiness to side with Mr Hamilton, and his happiness to see the Downey report's



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publication delayed, was not only partisan instinct. It was a modest but telling example of the clubby atmosphere of Westminster politics in action. There are Labour MPs whose outrage at media questioning of their conduct has been just as intense. Party politics aside, when it comes to criticisms of their ethics, Honourable Members

have tended to hang together.
Yet what happened when the getrich-quick atmosphere of the Eighties reached Westminster was that the old order of assumed probity and unspoken codes of behaviour simply crumpled. Confident, assertive men in a hurry,

who happened to be Tory MPs rather than merchant bankers, felt they had a right to a share of the action. The interpenetration of business and politics, in a culture of deregulation, lucrative government contracts, privatisations and utter one-party dominance, created a glittering orchard of temptation. Rules were bent, then abandoned. For much of the time, the Labour Party, was so bound up in its own gruesome agonies that the necessary scrutiny was lacking. The old public service culture of Whitehall and Westminster proved utterly unable to defend itself against the likes of Neil Hamilton.

It was not ideal that journalism became the de facto opposition to this. The best journalism is informative and sceptical about power, but not, in a democracy, opposed to power. Years of increasing opposition to the Thatcher and Major governments have left some journalists unable to distinguish between independence from politicians and knee-jerk hostility to them. Nevertheless, for a vital few years, the most damaging and useful probing of a governing party that had lost the old rulebook came from reporters and columnists. Without them, there would have been no Nolan report or Downey report, no rethinking of the Commons rules, and no unmasking of individuals. The greasy tenner culture would have spread further into government; the scandals would have been worse. We hope that that period has now

been brought to an end by Sir Gordon Downey and his employers, the MPs themselves. If the politicians have finally determined to take a grip of their own standards and image, then we are all winners. If the new Labour government has learnt, never to forget, the bitter lesson that hundreds of decent, honourable MPs can be tainted in the public mind by a handful of sleazy and protected fools then it need never suffer the Tories' recent agonies.

In a democracy we need to respect the motives and basic sense of public service of people elected to run the

politicians is natural and healthy. But cynicism about politics as a trade is a kind of poison. That cynicism has been spread in the past few years by a few silly, greedy men. Sir Gordon's language was tough but necessary. They have let down not only their party, but the political system they were once so proud to represent.

Don't mention the quarter-finals

Well, it was fun while it lasted. Tim Henman (there's only one, so they say) gave us the best nationalistic burn of the tournament last Sunday by feeding off crowd partisanship to win through to the quarter-finals, there to be stuffed comprehensively by a cool, controlled German. Greg Rusedski (are the crowds quite sure he counts?) tried hard, but couldn't make it either. Which just goes to prove you can't have everything, and that justice only comes in small parcels. Hamilton goes down. the Aussies get wiped in a day, so we can't have a Brit in the semi-finals. It's a bit like the Budget really; you get decency with one hand, and a higher mortgage with the other. Something quintessentially British about that, don't you think?

Lib Dem women

Sir: I comment on Louise Jury's report on the Fawcett Society's challenge to political parties to

"match Labour women's triumph"

The Pawcett Society has oversimplified the issue of women's

representation. They forget that

all-women shortlists were ruled

illegal. Mary-Ann Stephenson from the Fawcett Society is quoted as saying "it wasn't the fact that Labour did really well that got the

women in". Tosh! If they hadn't

done so well they wouldn't have so many women MPs.

Conservative women have to battle

prehistoric views.
What Liberal Democrats must do is not a simple question of

boosting raw numbers, as implied

when they get there, they will be able to achieve some good. In the

past our good women have aimed

where our real power lay - local

We unfortunately lost three excellent women MPs at the last

election; one, Emma Nicholson, stood down to pursue a career in

a Labour woman and the third,

Diana Maddock, achieved an outstanding swing of 18.3 per cent but it was not enough to keep her by-election victory. There were other women Liberal Democrats in

Europe, another, Liz Lynne, lost to

government.

by Fawcett. There are several issues, for example persuading more of our top women it's worth bothering with Westminster. That

Fawcett have overlooked the very different cultures within each

of the three main parties.

with ingrained sexism and

hold power

(30 June).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR .

Budget takes tentative green steps

Sir: The Government's moves on domestic energy are disappointing in what was hyped to be a "green" first Budget ("A disappointingly pale shade of green", 3 July). If the Government is serious about its commitment to carbon

dioxide reductions - by 20 per cent below 1990 levels by 2010 announced to such acclaim in New York last week, the necessary fiscal policies are needed now. Instead by reducing domestic energy costs the Chancellor is encouraging energy consumption not energy efficiency - adding to our carbon dioxide emission burden and making job creation in

the labour-intensive energy-efficiency sector more difficult. Labour has previously called for and supported moves to reduce VAT on energy efficient materials in line with the VAT on domestic energy. Yesterday was their opportunity to demonstrate their commitment and yet the Chancellor opted not to take it.

Action, not a wider review, is required to address the UK's carbon dioxide emissions and meet our climate change responsibilities. The Chancellor's first Budget takes tentative first steps where bolder ones were promised and needed. ROBIN PELLEW Director WWF-UK

Godabning, Surrey Sir: Your leader (3 July) on the Budget asserts that "being green and political at the same time is a smart trick that no one has quite yet pulled off". But does not the proposed £900m for new and refurbished council houses and the £1.3bn on school building repairs offer just such a chance?

Amory Lovins, guiding light of the Rocky Mountain Institute, has shown how truly "green" buildings can cost less than normal constructions. At least one is in Britain. Not only are fuel and running costs dramatically cut but such buildings also provide a stimulating, nourishing environment with natural flows of

light and air. Gordon Brown wants bright modern classrooms. As well as offering a wonderful environment for children at no extra cost. "green" huildings would stimulate and educate architects, designers and the construction industry to be at the cutting edge of the materials and technologies needed for the

next century.

Left to the markets, nothing will happen. Government, with vision, and exercising leadership, bowever, can create a fast track by setting new standards. It wants to do just this with pupil's achievement. Why not do it also with their environment. BRUCE TOFIELD

London N21 Sir: Gordon Brown's first Budget is to be welcomed for his proposals to help people with disabilities into work. The injection of £200m over five years into training and other support will help open up the world of work to a part of society that has been constantly marginalised. It is a refreshing feeling working for Opportunities, a leading charity in the disability and employment field, to know that the massive contribution that people with disabilities can make to society is being properly recognised. Opportunities has proved that, by working with people with



from overwork. It must also be

have to drive the custody vans

remembered that these officers also

having worked these long hours, no tachograph system is used. It is only

a matter of time before another life

is lost because of the working practices of the privatised prison

courier/custody services.
I would join Mr Long in asking

the Home Secretary to conduct a review, not only of the lay visiting procedures, but also of the working

practices of the private prison

custody companies.

PWLGREEN

Chestfield, Kent

disabilities and employers on a case-by-case basis, it is possible to find appropriate employment placement - over 3,000 in the last three years. In this way we have been able to overcome the reluctance of many employers to employ people with disabilities and have begun to end their exclusion

from society.
We are hopeful that the We are hopeful that the
Government's detailed proposals
will not encourage employers to
take people with disabilities on
short-term employment or training
contracts only. This is an issue that
often faces our clients today and we
will be working to ensure that with will be working to ensure that with help of this initiative it becomes an issue of the past. DAVID BURGESS Chief Executive Opportunities for People with

Exploitation by security firms

London EC2

Sir Nicholas Long is right to criticise the inadequacy of the role given to lay observers of courts (Letters, 1 July). For some time now the detention areas in courts have been run by private security firms.

If the observers had been permitted to do a proper job they may well have criticised the way privatised court services exploit their staff for profit. The security industry is notoriously exploitative. That is the only way it can be both

competitive and profit-making.
After the suicide of Peter Austin it is to be hoped lay observers will no longer be put off with the excuse of "commercial confidentiality". As matters stand this can too easily be

used as a smokescreen at the higher levels of management both in the prison service and the private security industry to avoid their proper share of blame when things go wrong, as they are bound to do. PETER RUSHWORTH National Secretary Prison Service Union Pontefract, West Yorkshire

Sir: Your correspondent Nicholas Long has raised a valid point with regard to the toothlessness of the lay visitors when trying to correct deficiencies found during inspections of custody areas and

prisoner transport.
I would also like to raise another worrying concern. When these services were privatised, or contracted out as the Home Office prefers to call it, my son was appointed as a prison custody officer with a company in southern England. He was contracted to work a 42-hour week, any overtime worked would be compensated for by time off in lieu. As things turned out my son and a large majority of his work colleagues ended up working anything up to 96 hours per week, a 72-hour week was

considered a luxury. When the work force asked for their time off in lieu they were told that there were not enough staff available to facilitate this. Some staff accrued weeks of "time to be taken". My son, wishing to have a family life, reluctantly resigned from his job, a job which he found both fulfilling and rewarding. My point is this. It is hardly surprising that dreadful errors like Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number. Fax: 0171-293 2056;

high price to pay Sir: Such a blatant misconception as Tom Heightman's claim (Letters, 1 July) that the retail price of CD albums has more than doubled in the last ten years, cannot remain uncorrected. In March 1987, High Street

CDs: not such a

retailers like us were selling the Top 40 CD albums for £9.99. Today, ten years later, we charge between £11.99 and £13.99, which represents a 20 per cent to 40 per cent increase - hardly the 100 per cent which Mr Heightman claims. Where on earth is he buying his

e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be

edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters.

CDs? ADRIAN RONDEAU Proprietor Adrian's Records Wickford, Essex

Exhumation for aboriginal head

Sir. Next week will see the SIT: Next week will see the anniversary of the murder of Yagan. One of the best-known of Australian aboriginal leaders, he was shot on 11 July 1833 by a white youth His head out off and youth. His head, cut off and smoked, landed up in the Liverpool Museum and remained there until, in 1964, the then Keeper of Ethnology – for reasons never explained – had it buried with other unwanted relics in an unmarked grave in Everton cemetery.

Now, as you have reported, his descendant Ken Colbung is in Britain and seeking the head's return. His request for exhumation has been backed by the Australian Prime Minister, John Howard, who on 29 June after a visit to London in which the problem of Yagan's head was one of the matters discussed - offered to pay for the costs of digging the

On Monday (30 June), the Aboriginal Torres Island Straits Commission (ATSIC). representing Aboriginal communities, and the Nyoongah people of Western Australia officially and unanimously authorised Ken Colbung to renew

the application. The previous Home Secretary refused a licence on the grounds that there were objections from the parents of several stillborns who lie in a higher layer of the same grave. But the Home Office have now been sent a technical study showing

that the head can be extracted without disturbing the stillborns, by sinking a shaft adjacent to the

grave.
We therefore urge the new Home Secretary, Jack Straw, to give his permission now for the exhumation, in time for a joint exhumation, in time for a joint Australian-British commemoration of Yagan's death on 11 July. European beliefs about physical resurrection are so muddled that we no longer know what they are or were. But today's Aborigines are more certain than we are that the whole body should receive appropriate funerary treatment before the spirit of a dead person can rest in peace. KEN COLBUNG MBE PETER UCKO

Director The Institute of Archaeology University College London London WC1

The Dome: it's crystal clear

Sir: Your report on the spiralling costs of the public bill for the Millennium Dome (30 June) brings to mind Ruskin's remarks about Crystal Palace:

The quality of bodily industry which the Crystal Palace expresses, is very great. So far it is good. The quantity of thought it expresses is, I suppose, a single and admirable thought ... that it might be possible to build a greenhouse larger than ever greenhouse was built before. This thought and some very ordinary algebra are as much as all that glass can represent of human intellect. Plus ça change, plus c'est la

meme chose! Mandelson take note. ROGER HEWELL

For sale on the Fourth of July

In 1776 the US was born, dedicated to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness'. By 1997, this has come to mean 'deregulation', but, says Mary Dejevsky, Europeans should be wary of following them down this particular path

> housing, cheap food, cheap cars, cheap utilities, cheap services. Strip off the layers of state regulation, and all that liberated competition just beats down those prices for the benefit of you, me and everyone else. That is the picture of the United States, as consumer paradise, that American boasts are made of.

> So successful is the US, according to conventional economic indicators, that its brand of deregulation took Britain by storm more than a decade ago (with a little help from Margaret Thatcher) and - if Brussels gets its way - is set to triumph across the rest of Europe.

Was it not in the cause of deregulation that the hapless Alain Juppé took on the French lorry drivers and the pilots of Air France? Was this not why Helmut Kohl risked the wrath of German steelworkers, and why both found themselves having to placate unhappy telecoms workers? Is the US not the shape of Europe's future?

Well, after three months as a "consumer" in the land of deregulated abunopponents of old-model Communism you could expect to meet - my faith in American-style laissez-faire is being sorely tested. It is not that the United States economy is not booming – it is: nor that many consumer prices are not lower than they are in most European countries - they are.

areas of activity where, despite ruthless

av what you like about the free are at the mercy of highly secretive and defensive businesses in which information is a deadly commercial weapon. Consider the following:

For my first weeks in Washington. I needed a hotel while looking for a flat and I set off to examine the options. At the first hotel, no one seemed to understand my question, let alone be ready to give an answer. For all the help given.
I might have been soliciting the
Lubyanka for one of the KGB's precious pieces of intelligence. In a way, I was.
What I wanted was a commercial

secret - the price of a room. Not immediately for an emergency booking, you understand, but to compare it with prices and facilities elsewhere. Oh European innocence! This is something the system is specifically designed to keep from all but the cognoscenti.

In almost every marble-clad reception area, someone smart-suited had to be fetched from an office far away - the "marketing manager". The counter staff had no access to such sensitive information; they might, at a stretch, know what a room would cost for that very night, but they were rarely trusted with dance - and one of the most die-hard more. Price depends on demand, real and anticipated. It varies not just from day to day, but from hour to hour. depending on when a magic bar is have no opportunity to compare, nor reached that triggers a rise. There is no "standard" price for the ordinary con- bracket we are in. sumer without the clout of a group, nor the possibility of negotiation. The system has some perverse results.

It is rather that there are significant. At one hotel, the price for one week was actually more than the price of one day competition, there is no benefit to con-times seven. "That can't be right," said sumers whatsoever. On the contrary, we the "marketing manager" when I



of the week was going to be busy, so the prices had been jacked up.

market. But the drawback here is that optimists think that it may do again. you and I are not privy to the information we need to make a free choice. This is effectively classified, held in the deep recesses of the company computers. We even to judge the approximate price

These practices, it is true, are the preserve of big-city chains. smaller, privately run operations outside prime areas retain their charm and accessibility. But they are not in the big money stakes and it may be only a matter of time before many of them, like the few privately run high-street stores. are swallowed up by the big boys. Something similar applies to hire

cars. You can call around as many offices as you like; you may chance upon someone with a special offer, or you will not. Each operates the "bar" system, with rates that change from hour to hour according to market conditions.

The rate you were quoted at 9am for two days hence may be different from the one you are quoted at 11am when you have called three or four others to compare. As with hotel prices, you the consumer are excluded from a tightly closed commercial loop.

Which brings us to the iniquitous price of air travel in this consumer with no competition. Where there is

ulation of the American skies was going rices had been jacked up.

Now pricing according to demand is

to lead to low fares and higher quality to most destinations across the US - and an unimpeachable principle of the free the world. Well, it did - for a while, and

> For the moment, though, it will cost you three times more to travel twothirds of the way across the US (Washington to Albuquerque, New Mexico, or El Paso, Texas) than to travel from Washington or New York to London. Absurd though it seems, travelling from Washington to Boston via London may he a money-saver.

> If you really have to use a domestic route, the only way to reduce the price is to book several weeks in advance, and not change your mind or requirements. A Saturday-night stay may bring the price down a little, but not significantly. We are again in the land of the magic computerised bar, where prices are adjusted to the market - except that no one sells off last-minute seats cheaply Less than one week before the flight, it

is full price or nothing on most routes.

Two factors have brought US air travellers to this pretty pass. The Valujet crash in the Florida Everglades made cheap flights by new no-frills companies suspect and boosted the more established companies. (The crash of TWA 800 off Long Island a year ago did not have the reverse effect.)

The other was a bout of routeconsolidation among the bigger companies which has left many major routes

competition, prices may be 50 per cent less than on routes where there is none. But the number of those routes is still in decline.

Deregulation or no, affordable air travel is no longer a feature of American life. In Europe, where airline deregulation is gathering pace, the trend is the

other way - but for how long? A fair objection would be that hotels. cars and planes are the concerns of a minority, even in America's highly mobile society. Competition (and market size) have brought cars for the masses; competition (and vast space) have permitted cheap housing, compared with Europe. But consider the humble telephones. Even the most bargain-hungry of America's compulsive telephone-talkers are starting to grouse. The "downside of telecoms deregulation" is becoming to middle-class dinner tables what house prices or builders are to their British counterparts.

The complaints are legion: repeat calls, usually at dinner time, from companies wanting you to "switch" to them on the basis of a "special offer" for one or other service; clogged long-distance and toll-free lines because companies have expanded their number of customers without sufficient lines to cater for them; directory inquiry services sited thousands of miles from the locality whose numbers are being dispensed - leading to recurrent and improbable

But the biggest complaints relate to

virtually (deliberately) impossible to compare like with like, or even to obtain accurate information. Imagine the maze of mobile phone rates in the UK applied to your home telephone line, and you will glimpse the problem.

My attempts to persuade companies to fax me their rates failed at the first hurdle. "We can't fax." "But you are in the telecoms business." "Yes, but we can't do it from our computers." As with hotel chains, counter staff are no entrusted with this commercially sensitive information. You have to penetrate it several layers further - and even they

The awful prospect, however, is that the next stage of "deregulation" could make things even worse for consumers. The present telecoms chaos may leave gaping holes in customer service, but the cheapish turiffs for major trunk destinations are of some benefit. Now, a number of the companies that were privatised and divided are trying - like the airlines before them, and the privatised utility companies - to get back together.

Recent reports that the former monopoly and still largest US telephone company. AT&T, was planning to merge with SBC Commu-nications to provide local and trunk phone services, for instance, aroused a mixed response: the tariff structure might become simpler and more open, but prices could rocket. My feelings on learning earlier this week that the deal was off were just as mixed. The two companies could not agree terms and were worried about regulatory approval. Sethe price war continues, but so does the

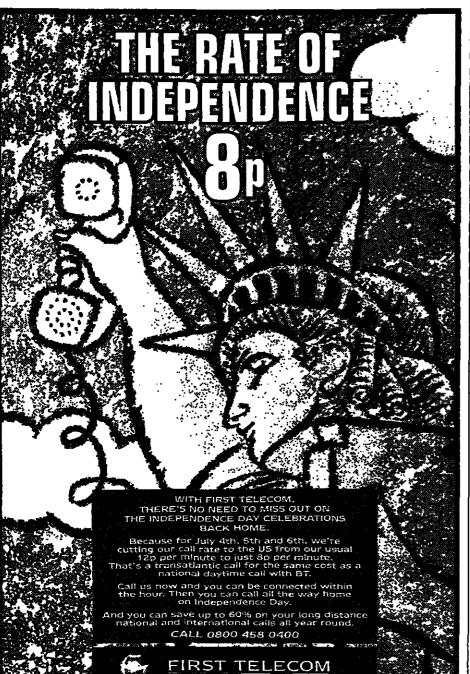
Since then, a US judge has prevented a merger between the two biggest US office supply companies. Staples and Office Depot, on competi-tion grounds. But unconditional approval has been granted to the takeover by the giant aircraft company, Boeing, of the only other US aircraft manufacturer of any size, McDonnell Douglas - a merger which the European Commission is currently questioning on its own account.

Watching the consequences of deregulation American-style as a "consumer I find it hard not to conclude that, while the early effects of competition are: highly beneficial (the service in the still highly regulated US banking sector is considerably more expensive, less' efficient and less consumer-friendly than in Britain), the advantages can: soon wear off.

The pressure on companies to keep prices low and turn a profit can reduce service and quality. Low-paid junior staff - the ones who face the customer first - can be ill-informed, sullen and reluctant. Bigger companies, moreover, will use their market position to minimise the effects of competition. They track other people's prices in secret so as to raise their own to the maximum that this (artificial) market will bear. They strive - through buyouts, mergers, or restricted information - to gain as near a monopoly position as possible.

It is not true that the interests of big companies and small consumers are equally served by competition. The instinct of America's big companies, no less than that of Europe's state monopolies, is to stifle it. The market may rule, but without rules to foster continual competition, it seems to degenerate. sooner or later, into a dog-eats-dog struggle for survival.

Some years ago, a journalist travelled to the post-revolutionary Soviet Union and reported, famously, that he had seen the future and it worked. I hope I have not seen the future here in the United States - because it does not . always work, at least not for you and me. Until then, anyway; best wishes for a the complex and confusing tariffs: it is Happy Fourth of July.



A considered reply to the rainfall tax

So, how will this new rainfall tax work? Well, every time that it rains for a long time. somebody somewhere makes a lot of money out of

Obvicusly that's not fair. So the Government is

going to tax the people who make a lot of money out of Right. That's the gist of it.

Thank you very much. Is that the end of the Well, that seems to wrap it

up, doesn't it? I don't think that's what they call an in-depth Oh. Isn't it?

No. Better ask some more probing questions. Right ... Were were we? You were saying: "So how will this new rainfall tax

Oh, right. So, how will this new rainfall tax work exactly? That's interesting. What's interesting You added the word exactly".

Yes. I suggested that you said, "How does this new

rainfall tax work?", and you said, "OK" and then you said. "How does this new rainfall tax work, exactly?". Did I?

Why did I do that? Because interviewers these days have discovered that they sound more intelligent if they ask stupid questions in an intelligentsounding way.
That's interesting. Can you

give me another example? Certainly. One of the interviewer's favourite questions to politicians who iave programmes to implement is this: "Where are you going to get the money from?". Ah! And to make it sound

more intelligent they say: "Where are you going to get the money from, exactly?"? No. They say: "So, what areas are you going to target to find the additional resources in order to source the funding for this

initiative" Blimey ... What does that It means, "Where are you

going to get the money from?" I get you, So ...



Miles Kington

So you ask me who this rainfall tax is going to affect.

Right. So, who exactly is this new rainfall tax going to

target? Excellent ...! Well, there are some people in the world who make enormous amounts of money out of rainfall ...

Good heavens! Are there really?

Oh, yes. Name some. Rice farmers. Umbrella manufacturers. Hydro-

electric engineers. Water company tycoons. Deep-sea divers. Manufacturers of tumble dryers ...

Manufacturers of tumble dryers? Yes. Every time it rains, it means people can't hang

their washing out to dry, so more people buy tumble dryers.
Right. So, who else makes money out of rain?

Hairdressers. Bookmakers. Ornamental pond salesmen. Make-up manufacturers. White-water raft companies. Raincoat

Yes, ves. I get the point. Just a moment. Bookmakers? How do bookmakers make money out of rain?

Bookmakers make money out of everything. How do they make it out of

Well, let's say two friends decided to have a bet on which of two raindrops got to the bottom of a window

first ... They wouldn't go to a bookie to place their bet True. All right, have you ever thought that every time an event on which lots of money is wagered is rained

off, the bookies keep it all? Is that true? I think so. Fishermen.

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Farmers. Taxi drivers. Marquee hirers. Owners of How do owners of village halls make money out of

Have you never seen the sign "If Wet, In The Village

Hmm. And taxi drivers? Every time it rains, pedestrians jump in the nearest taxi. Right. So we have all these people who make a fortune out of rain, right?

Right. And the Government is going to soak them? Ha ha.

How will it do it? How will it do what? I'm sorry: I mean, how will this new tax be implemented

Well, every time it rains.

Miles Kington writes: I am sorry. I have just been informed that it is a windfall tax that is being introduced, not a rainfall tax. Please ignore this interview and tune in again on Monday.

A clear response to the cash for questions MPs

t was worth the long wait. Let us be kind and put down Lto shock the deafening silence which was Conservative Central Office's first reaction yesterday to Sir Gordon Downey's report. For it is a tribute to it that it retains the capacity to shock even after the mil-lions of the words written and spoken about sleaze in the last

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Neil Hamilton, still fatuously protesting his innocence of the "central charges" until the last (for those TV stations prepared to pay for interviewing him) is banged to rights. Sir Gordon, contrary to Hamilton's confident expectations, had no compunction about concluding that he did indeed take cash in brown envelopes from Mohamed Al Fayed for asking parliamentary questions.

At least two other MPs, beside the wretched Tim Smith, would almost certainly, we now know, have had to resign had a know, have had to resign had a trick of Tory timing not prevented publication of the report before the election. How astoundingly lucky, therefore, for William Hague that, like Jonathan Aitken, neither Hamilton, Michael Grylls (who stood down) nor Sir Andrew Bowden nor, perhaps, Michael Brown survived the election.

The robustness of the

The robustness of the Downey report - which wasn't universally expected - is a big step forward for those confident that a reformed Commons can regulate itself. It is hard to see bow even a Standards and Priveleges Committee as heavily dominated by the Tories as the present one is by Labour could

bave upheld appeals against verdicts as painstakingly supported by evidence as these. Sir Gordon's report is a cheering vindication of the faith put in the appointment of a par-liamentary commissioner by Nolan. Optimists have been saying for some time that they belong to a culture which has already been transformed by Sir Gordon's appointment, and the tightening of the rules for commercial interests enacted in the last parliament. Any MP offered such an interest now knows that he acts at his own risk if he fails to pick up a telephone to check with Sir Gordon's office.

Even the dry passim judgements of the report

- "There is a general obligation on members to the effect, 'If in doubt, register.' Mr Hamilton seems to have adopted the opposite principle and, if in doubt, gave himself the bene-fit of it" - are a reminder of the nemesis that can overtake MPs if they take the risk. Sir Gordon has done the business.

It may seem churlish, therefore, to say that the system still has some way to go before it can be said to be perfect. Not every case will necessarily be as clear-cut, not every MP on the take as breathtakingly arrogant or careless about covering his tracks as Hamilton or Smith. This means, first, that when Lord Nolan's committee comes to review the system, probably in the next parliament, it should con-



sider further refinements to

ensure that it is proof against the powers of manipulation by the

governing party. Notan himself recommended explicitly that the

Parliamentary Commissioner

should have the same powers to

publish the report as the Audi-

tor and Comptroller General -in other words that he was not

bound by the wishes of the com-

mittee about when he chose to

make his report public. This

recommendation got lost in the inter-party negotiations on how to implement Nolan. And

because it did it was impossible for Downey to publish before

the election. Depriving the gov-erning party of the power to

influence timing would be a highly effective incentive for it

to keep its own house in order.

Privileges Committee has the

power to hear appeals against Sir Gordon's conclusions and to decide what sentence to recom-

mend to the Commons. It is

questionable whether it is right

for such a quasi-judicial committee to have its members

appointed by party whips, to reflect exactly the party compo-sition of the Commons itself. As

it happens, two Tory members of the Standards and Privileges

Committee showed, albeit in

the comparatively trivial case of

David Willetts, their determi-

nation to make the system work

with integrity and impartiality.

They were Tony Newton, a man

of great honour and with a

capacity to resist political pres-

sure from his own party, who chaired the committee, and

Second, the Standards and

Donald Macintyre

The robustness of Downey is a big step forward for those confident that a

Commons can regulate itself

reformed

Quentin Davies, a highly inde-pendent-minded spirit who gave Willetts such a hard time in cross-examination. But supposing they hadn't been around, or that the Tories had had a much bigger, and more easily manipulable majority—the conclusions might be very different. Labour MPs naturally throw up their hands in borror at the idea that a large majority on their side would ever yield to such political pressure. And tough, awkward MPs like Dale Campbell Savours and Alan an important sense in which self-regulation won't be fully tested until a sitting Labour MP has had to be dealt with.

But that's for another day. Downey illuminates the closing rotten years in which Tory MPs were on the take and got away with it. John Major can't escape some of the blame for appointing as ministers MPs like Aitken and Hamilton whom Thatcher, with much better judgement, had overlooked. Royston Webb, Mohamed Al Payed's ex-lawyer, testified to Downey that the lobbyist Ian Greer told him of being besieged after the 1983 election by Tory MPs seeking consultancies like "taxi drivers ... for hire". The Tories will say that Downey reflects an era which has ended. But if Hague really wants to draw a line under it,

he needs to express his own horror and deter-

mination to prevent a repeat. He should start

by expelling the miscreants from the Tory party.

Hollywood's fantasy about sex and the stars

by Suzanne Moore

here is coming out and coming out. Rupert Everett came out years ago as a homosexual. Now this charming man has come out as a former prostitute, or "rent boy", and Hollywood is nervous that this actor's "newfound bankability, a scene-stealing performance in the Julia Roberts vehicle My Best Friend's Wedding, will be short-lived. Why should this be? Are we really so astonished that someone who performs for a living should have performed sexual favours for money, that someone who makes a living partly through selling their sex-uality should have sold some real sex? What has the casting couch been used for over the years - knitting?

Only a few weeks ago we were persuaded to believe that the door of the celluloid closet had creaked open slightly, with the sitcom star Ellen cavorting with Clinton. Whereas lesbian chic is a titillating idea for the mainstream press, "sordid" gay prostitution is something else altogether. It is easier to pretend that the line between happy homosexuality, and a kind of gay lifestyle where it is not unknown for people to drift in and out of prostitution and not be stigmatised, is firmly drawn, just as we like to kid ourselves that the heterosexual men who go to prostitutes are not the men we know. When the contents of Heidi Fleiss's little black book were revealed to include the names of several Hollywood stars, no one was very dismayed. Paying for sex is manly, being paid for it is a sign of emasculation. What, though, do we pay our

stars for, if not to stimulate sexual fantasies? Of course, this is not all that cinema is about, but it sure as bell helps. Acting itself is not prostitution, though most great actors will have done things they are ashamed of; and punters, though most of us will have paid for a quick thrill and felt cheapened by it. But they are parallel careers in that they both involve the mechanics of arousal, desire and the necessary deferral of gratification that keeps us coming back for more. One cannot, whisper it low in case Gordon Brown hears, remove the selling of sex from the selling of cinema, however many tax subsidies you give to the film industry. Yet the dream factory itself

cannot cope with the demands of its own market-place. Stars are supposed to be available both as fantasies and in real life. Thus the knowledge that a lead-



Idol moments: (clockwise from top right) James Stewart, Sylvester Stallone with Julianne Moore, Rupert Everett, Robert Mitchum, and Tom Cruise

The movie industry assumes one must be bonkable to be bankable. We don't want former rent boys as lust objects, now, do we?

ing man is gay is considered man", as someone who wasn't not letting the "acting show". longer be credible in romantic roles. Whatever happened to the notion of acting? Or to the suspension of disbelief? The assumption that acting is about playing at being someone else? The persistent rumours about the sexuality of a Tom Cruise of a Richard Gere can only be kept in circulation because we know actors are not always what they seem. Indeed, that is their job.

Jimmy Stewart was not what he seemed, as the obituaries this week have shown. As the gulf between the characters he played and his real life was political rather than sexual, no one seemed to mind very much. His appeal was as an "every-

ctor will no even acting in the first place. Gilbert A not an actor. You could see this man's soul," eulogised the director Frank Capra. Stewart himself was bewildered about what he was doing. "Sometimes I wonder if I am doing a James Stewart impersonation myself." This impersonation often involved playing liberal, easy-going pacifists. In reality Stewart backed Nixon, was a good friend of Reagan and was hawkish about the Vietnam war. Did this detract from his

screen presence? Not one iota. Stewart shared with that other great actor. Robert Mitchum, who also died this week, an approach that meant

brilliantly describes the "almost imperceptible virtuosity of American movie actors". Mitchum, who shrugged off his career as better than working, and saw himself as a hired hand rather than an artist, was judged to have been "incapable of self-reflection". What a relief that is in the days when actors struggle so often in interviews to conjure up the enormous difficulties of their chosen profession. Mitchum's louche sexual presence, his ability to convey real evil in both The

Night of the Hunter and Cape

Fear, appear instinctual. When

Robert De Niro played the

same part in Scorsese's re-

make of Cape Fear, he became a method monster, tattooed up, snarling and seductive. This was perceptible virtuosity, but not half as scary as Mitchum's casually psychotic menace. Nowadays so much screen

acting is showy. It is acting about acting; acting that refers to other parts that the actors have played. Look at Pacino and De Niro in Heat, trying so hard that it hurts. If Stewart and Mitchum were, as has been claimed the last of Hollywood's great leading men in that they could effortlessly embody "authenticity", today's actors have a harder time of it because they are left with merely impersonating the authentic.

The old stars have been replaced with blank boys such as Keanu Reeves and Brad Pitt, edgy over-actors (see above). out-and-out weirdox, Harvey Keitel and Christopher Walken. or complete non-starters - the Schwarzeneggers, Stallones and Van Dammes - who don't even pretend that they are acting in the first place. A good man, as opposed to a bad one, or a boy, s hard to find. Until then we have to make do with the decidedly grown-up Harrison Ford, or trying to fit small-screen stars such as George Clooney into big-screen roles and even bigger codpieces.

The star system may accommodate slightly more flexible versions of masculinity; but after several years of Hollywood Babylon revelations, it is still paranoid about male sexuality. In this, as in so many other areas, it underestimates the intelligence of its audience and presumes that fantasy and fact are inseparable.

For stars such as Everett and Everett is a star if the def-inition of a star means that when he is on screen you don't want to watch anyone else - the assumption remains that one must be bonkable in order to be bankable. We don't want former do we? Well, yes, as long as we pretend we don't know about it.

The separation of an actor's life from his work is subject to endless speculation and made more complicated by the culture of celebrity, which strives always to deny that such a gulf exists. Yet we must insist on it, otherwise the very notion of acting becomes meaningless. What you see is not always what you get, and that is in fact what we are paying for. Unless we realise this, we might as well throw in our lot with James Stewart. who, in his role in Harrey, once said: "I've wrestled with reality for 35 years, and I'm happy doctor, I finally won out over it."

The waning of Middle England

The loss of quaint rituals and cultural traditions threatens our national identity, argues Clive Aslet

ilitary ceremonial, feathered ues have been hats, a tearful governor, the replaced by others, Royal Yacht, torrential rain but that there are the handover of Hong Kong was the sort of show that could only have been put on by the British. "They seem to have been impressed by the precision," said my deputy, speaking of the 8,000 other journalists who were with him to vitness it all. But what did Tony Blair make of it I wondered, when I saw him, bright-eved and schoolbovishly wind-blown, on television. A chap whose gorge rises at judges' wigs and the sillier aspects of parliamentary tradition may well have felt there were too many eggs in the pudding

Now that the Prime Minister is home, he will no doubt continue with his mission to modernise what he clearly regards as a stuffy old country. whose quaint rituals and traditions offend against the managerial style of New Labour (New Model Labour, as it is coming to be called, from the Cromwellian tendency of its leader). No government minister has been allowed to attend the Chelsea Flower www. Royal Ascot or any of the Other big events of this damp summer. at which tradition is celebrated with gaiety. We do not yet know what sort of nation Mr Blair wants us to become - though I fear that the ghost of

change will cause us to feel even more uncertain about who we are now. In the last few days I have been plumbing the soul of Middle England. through the medium of local radio. Confined within a cubicle at Broadcasting House, a charmingly dysfunctional set of headphones clamped to my ears. I have sought to excite the listeners of Radios Cornwall, Essex.

Praise-God Barebones will hover over

it. My worry is that the process of

Nottingham, Derby and others about my book . Inyone for England? The premise of it is that the commonly-held assumptions about being British with which I grew up will not be inherited by my two-year-old son. It is not just that the old shared val-

fewer shared values sonal; I imagined a lot of people would hate them. In the event, I found a gratifying but entirely unexpected number of listeners agreeing with me. People do seem to feel that their national identity is waning. Middle England believes it has become the hole in the Polo mint.

A desire for belonging is a fundamental human need. It is a need, however, that has been denied by the fragmentation that characterises modern life. Families

quently, they are just as reluctant to join political parties as they are to attend church; once-monolithic corporations have downsized. There are fewer and fewer opportunities for all of Britain to be doing the same thing at the same time. Take the ritual known as watching the Nine O'Clock News. Once, the whole nation gathered around the domestic idol of the television set, to receive knowledge of the days events from the BBC. Now the multiplicity of choice in TV channels reflects the car windscreen tendency of everything that

once looked immemorial to shatter. And yet the urge to belong is as deeply felt as ever. At the personal level, it can be seen in the new fashion for family history. Up and down the country, local history libraries are thronged with amateur genealogists, tracing their roots. This passion used to be associated with recently formed nations such as the United States. The



do not cohere; people move home fre- British did not bother with it much. because, as the American conserva-

tionist David Lowethal remembers having been told by British colleagues in the Sixties: "We don't need those family details; we have a secure national identity." The frantic desire to recapture that old security explains the colourful outburst of Henmania at Wimbledon, when fans were as desperate to demonstrate their togetherness in adulation of their hero. The nation found a similar outlet through the VE and VJ Day commemorations. I would have high hopes of the Millennium Experience at Greenwich, were it not that the appointment of Cameron Mackintosh and Michael Grade seems guaranteed to create a spectacular for American tourists, rather than a celebration of our common past which could go some way to correcting the woefully inadequate

leaching of history in English schools.

By coming together at events such as

Greenwich the nation cements its culture. Do not reach for your revolver, i am not referring to artistic culture, but the gen-eral context in which we live. Once, this provided guidelines for the kind of behavour with which the British were comfortable. They behaved politely towards one

another. They did not urinate, spit or belch in public. They did not eg. They were tolerant of one another's neculiarities, hecause they were confident in the ancient democratic processes by which a benign providence had caused their existence to be ordered. The loss of respect suffered by

democratic institutions is probably the greatest change to have overcome Britain in my lifetime. Sleaze at Westminster - a card rather overplayed - is only part of it. Our public inquiries are the most laboriously democratic of any in the world, and yet Swampy and his cohorts set their outcome at nought. Not that it is just the Swampys. Out with their opera-discupting Strimmers, the prosperous neighbours of Garsington Manor are much the same.

We were, of course, terribly up-tight. The title of the farce No Sex Please. We're British expressed an immediately recognisable attitude. Divest someone like me of his inhibitions, and there wouldn't be much left. It is possible for repression to go too far. It causes people to dash across cricket pitches and tennis courts with-out clothes, thinking they will shock spectators. On the other hand, there was an acceptance of a manner of behaviour that made people feel easy.

"The Englishman hates to reveal himself: in fact it is considered bad manners to talk about oneself," remarked the German Kurt von Stutterheim in a book about the English in 1937. It was an assumption with which I grew up. The secrets of a marriage, for example, were things that the rest of the world should never know. The Princess of Wales danced on that, and her behaviour will set a norm.

This culture - the culture of tradition - was expressed in emblems such as the telephone hox, tall policentan's helmet and red London bus. These symbols were unique; yet any expression of regret at their passing is regarded as laughable. Foreign visitors must think we are mad. The latest depredation upon a familiar icon has been to turn the backs of London buses into enormous moving billboards, advertising jeans and cosmetics. The back of a bus has never been a synonym for beauty, but this contribution to the street-scape is - yes, I shall say it - vulgar. By using the word I risk condemning myself as élitist. Yet there was a time when it was accepted that the streets of the capital should he regulated to the highest standards.

We should hesitate before casting these national symbols overboard. They mean something. They take a long time to establish. Oddly, it is always the English dimension in the Union which gets jettisoned. I do not hear Mr Blair saying: we must mod-ernise Britain, so let's end the teaching of Gaelic in Scottish schools, we'll have no more dual-language road signs in Wales, Parliament will have a free vote on banning archaic practices involving the death of animals, such as the slaughter for halal and kosher meat. However, if young English people grow up to believe that they do not have a culture in which they can legitimately take pride, their natural group instinct may find an outlet in ngoism, racism and violence.

The writer is editor of 'Country Life'.

MIND STRETCH

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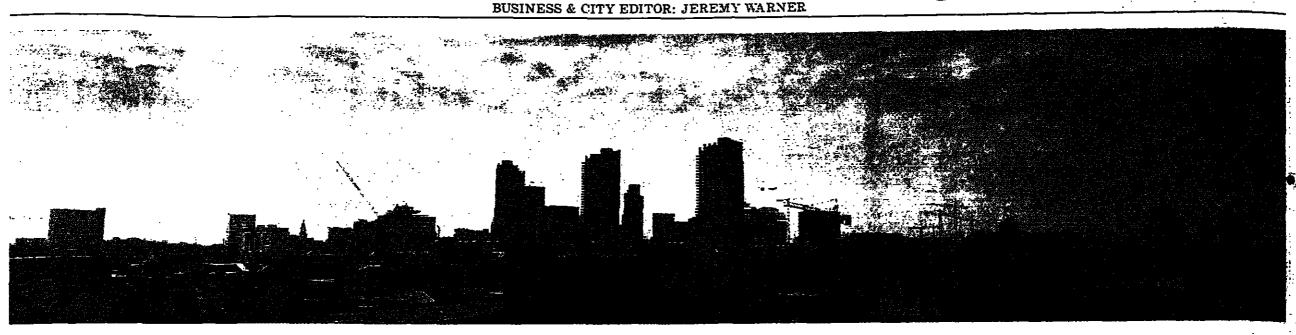
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A MEETING OF MINDS

business & city



City fall-out looms from obscure Budget measure □ Sterling remains buoyant □ Utilities recover

Panic as investment banks face £1bn loss

Diane Coyle and Andrew Yates

An obscure tax measure in the Budget could cost the City of London well over £1bn, experts warned vesterday.

The potential losses facing some individual investment banks could reach hundreds of millions of pounds, although the exact figures will not be known until full details of the measures are published with next week's Finance Bill. The full extent of the blow emerged as the FTSE 100 index leapt to a new record vesterday. It ended more than 80 points higher at 4,831.7.

BZW is one of the banks thought to be especially vulnerable to big losses from the Chancellor's unexpected decision to close a tax loophole.

A BZW spokesman said:

will have a material impact on mours that one large market-Barclays or BZW's first-half earnings. However, based on our understanding of the situation, we do foresee some po-

tential loss of future earnings. "It is too early to evaluate the financial impact of the changes but the numbers being sug-gested amounting to hundreds of millions of pounds, are unfounded and ridiculous."

BZW refused to comment on whether its losses were material or on rumours that it was poised to abandon its marketmaking altogether as a result of the hit from the Budget change. This would affect all the big banks. It could have a huge im-

pact," said one leading analyst

yesterday. terday their losses as a result of

maker was in serious financial trouble. The extent of the panic in the stock market was such that there were even unsubstantiated rumours of Bank of England involvement.

UBS denied it was one of the biggest victims. A spokesman said: "A final assessment cannot be made until we have seen the detailed provisions of the Finance Bill. But we do not expect it to have a material impact."

However, industry sources said UBS could still be very exposed. It is understood to be the biggest player in the market for the contracts backing guaranteed bonds issued by insurance companies, but most of the major banks are exposed to these.

"If the income from dividends falls by just 1 per cent it the move would not be large, can have a devastating effect. but the City was awash with ru- Most of the contracts last for 10 Sterling index

years, so a bank's income could fall by at least 10 per cent. That could cost them hundreds of millions of pounds if not more,"

said one source yesterday. could cost the banking sector as a whole more than £500m, acFTSE 100 index

The contracts with a host of building societies and insurance companies to provide guaranteed income bonds for their customers mean the banks have to create an income stream by investing in complicated futures and options.

The reduction in dividend in-

rivatives trades. Equities derivatives contracts are calculated on the old taxfree dividend basis. The income stream according to which they were originally priced has been sharply reduced by the end

of the tax exemption.

the return the banks can expect

to achieve. Many are exposed

to potential losses on the de-

The direct effect of the tax change will cost securities traders £500m over four years, the Inland Revenue estimated yesterday. It said the move was designed to clamp down on a tax incentive for big investment banks to opt for dividends

rather than trading profits. Even without taking into account the huge indirect effects, it could lead to some institutions

come as a result of losing tax-exempt status will sharply cut—last autumn showed the business rect losses due to the Budget was generally unprofitable.

John Whiting, a partner at Price Waterhouse, said: "This new move is flagged as blocking a loophole but the net effect is penal, Market-making is not very profitable, and this will

make it even less so.' The Inland Revenue was contacted by several concerned banks yesterday, all seeking further clarification of the "tax

leakage" measure. The unexpected move, contained in a press notice issued after Gordon Brown's Budget on Wednesday, ends the tax exemption on dividends on shares held by dealers. From Budget day, dividends will be treated for tax purposes as part of their trading profits, and liable to tax.

This will yield £500m directly

by April 2001. However, indi-

could be much greater.

"This could cost the banks up to £1bn," Paul Wopshott, another partner with Price Wa terhouse, one of the bigge accountancy firms in the Ul said yesterday.

Some traders will have contracts based on underlying dividend flows on shares they the not hold. Some analysts sug gested this helped explain the surge in the stock market yes terday, as some banks rushed in buy the underlying shares? hedging this liability.

Anthony Rush, a senior man ager at accountancy firm Coops ers & Lybrand, said: "The measures introduced by the Chancellor fundamentally change the manner in which UR dividends in the hands of sects rities traders are treated,"

pound soars further

Diane Coyle

The pound hit its highest levels for six and a half years yester- that he wanted a stable and day in the aftermath of the competitive pound. "I wanted Budget. Although Gordon to mitigate the pressure on Brown, Chancellor of the Exchequer, insisted vesterday that reduce the pressure on interest rates and the pound, the Bank of England's monetary policy committee was widely expected extremely tough. to increase the cost of borrow-

ing after its meeting next week.
The pound ended the day at DM2.95, its old central parity in the European Exchange Rate that the reduction in mortgage Mechanism. Its index against a interest tax relief and increase range of currencies rose to in stamp duty would stabilise the 103.5, the highest since the bousing market.
beginning of 1991, up from However, man 101.7 before the Budget.

Budget will have a negligible

exporters," he said. he had taken tough measures to in place a framework for longterm stability which would boost investment. The new rules for government borrowing were

"When people look in detail at the figures they will recognise it as a significant fiscal tighten-

However, many economists "The tax changes in the Miles, professor of economics at Imperial College, said: "There impact on the economy. The must be a lot of very relieved Chancellor has handed the re- estate agents. If he was trying to sponsibility-and the blame-for put the brakes on the housing

Mr Brown said yesterday

He said the Budget had set

ing," Mr Brown said. He added

disagreed with this claim. David managing the economy on to market, this won't do it."

Eddie George." said Adam Cole. Fresh evidence on the buoy- | Sameena Ahmad economy boosted the expectation that the Bank will take action very soon to prevent a

full-blown consumer boom.

The newly established survey of services by the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply, showed that activity remained very strong last month, although it had slipped back from May's heights. Expectations for future business picked up in June.
The Confederation of British

Industry's monthly survey of the high street showed a pick-up in activity in June. Apart from footwear and leather goods retailers, all sectors reported an increases in sales from a year earlier and said they expected a further improvement.

Alistair Eperon, chairman of the CBI's distributive trades panel, said: "At first glance, the Budget seems unlikely to upset these expectations."

Rate rise expected as | Companies may go abroad to avoid double taxation hit

Some of the UK's biggest overseas earners were up in arms vesterday over the Chancellor of the Exchequer's plans to abolish foreign income divi-dends. SmithKline Beecham, BAT Industries, Glazo Wellcome, RTZ and Reckitt and Colman were among those objecting to the Budget proposals which expose companies making substantial non-UK profits to a double taxation hit after

April 1999. Privately some even raised the possibility of moving their domicile outside the UK. Analysts estimated the move, which could cost UK companies more than £400m a year, would lead to a sharp increase in the number of companies choosing to pay their dividends as "Fids" before the 1999 deadline.

Hugh Collum, finance director of the SmithKline Beecham

of 90 per cent of its earnings from ing group and based in London. total dividend as a Fid, said yesterday the move could force some companies to leave the UK. "It is a possibility. It is an alternative if this proposal goes through. It is one of those issues that SmithKline Beecham has

considered," he said. Mr Collum said he would lobby Labour to modify its plans. We would have expected the Government to put a cap on Fids, so that companies which make, say, over 40 per cent overseas can still pay dividends in this way. I hope we will find some way to compromise on this

Michael Prideaux, a spokesman for BAT said: "This is com-pletely inequitable. I can't believe that a supposedly probusiness government wants to penalise UK companies. We will be arguing our corner. There are a lot of companies affected." drug giant, which makes in excess RTZ, the world's biggest min-

happy and Glaxo Wellcome said it was "disappointed" and would "make our views known". David Saltmarsh, company secretary at Reckitt and Colman. said: "We have until 1999. This is a double taxation on our overseas profits.`

The upset about the abolition of Fids, which were introduced by Norman Lamont when he was Chancellor in the early 1990s, reflects their "use" as a way for companies to avoid paying unrecoverable tax. Fids. which can only be paid by companies with significant non-UK earnings, allow companies to offset the Advance Corporation Tax (ACT) they pay on dividends against their mainstream UK tax bill. For companies which make relatively low profits in the UK and so have a small mainstream tax bill, accumulated ACT hits earnings.
Fids do not incur ACT and so Taylor Woodrow

level of dividend growth to pay more ACT or could lead to cut in dividends. The companies hardest hit will be those such as Lasmo, BTR and RTZ which use Fids extensively.

Paul Wopshott, tax expert at Price Waterhouse, said: Gordon Brown's move brings the whole ACT problem back to square one. It will be criminal if any company that can do it does not now start paying fids."

allow companies to top up their Phil Collins. UK equity analyst UK dividends without damag- at James Capel, said: "These ing their earnings growth. Abolishing Fids will force companies appear from the UK altogether the UK a which want to maintain their er or will start paying fids so that investors will accept a lower lev-

el of UK dividends later". Though most observers are gued that leaving the UK was the "nuclear option" and may in cur prohibitive costs, it is likely to be used as an argument to persuade chancellor Mr Browti to change his decision. Accord ing to Mr Saltmarsh: "If there" is no other solution, if the government remains unreasonable: it may be the last resort,"

Holiday is over for companies' pension schemes

Roger Trapp

Pension contribution holidays are set to be abandoned by many leading companies in response to the Chancellor's abolition of the tax credit on dividends.

companies likely to be hardest hit by the widely predicted changes would be British Steel,

With the corporate sector due to put up £9bn to £10bn over the next 10 years to cover the predicted shortfall, actuaries report that many finance directors are asking if they are companies from all sectors were going to have to restart or increase contributions earlier

Though most FTSE 100 companies contacted by The Inde-

analysts at BZW suggested before the Budget that among the ICI, Rolls-Royce, British Telecom and British Aerospace. Martin Slack, senior partner of actuaries Lane Clark & Peacock, said yesterday that concerned and had started to

contact the firm. BT expects to have to top up its pension fund, while the Post Office suggested it might have

pendent yesterday said it was too to increase the price of stamps to say what they would do, to cover an increase in contributions. But drugs companies Zeneca and Glaxo Wellcome, oil company Shell Transport and Trading and supermarkets group Asda said their funds were adequately funded for the immediate future.

The Post Office, which could see £1bn knocked off the £12bn value of its two funds, would not rule out an increase in the price of postage stamps as a result of the ACT move. It is seeking a meeting with the Department of Trade and Industry about how it can meet the cost, which it will

find difficult despite recording record profits of £577m last year. British Telecom, which had a £800m surplus in 1995, is also expected to have to put further cash into its £20bn pension fund. The claims of shortfalls in

pension funds brought a robust response from Alistair Darling, Chief Secretary to the Treasury. "It is not unexpected that the National Association of Pension Funds and others would pile in if any change at all were made in the system of taxation," he said.

Mr Darling claimed the com-bination of abolishing the div-

idend tax credit and cutting corporation tax would boost investment and profits and allow companies to make higher pension contributions, while the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, said: "The pension funds have very big surpluses. Indeed many companies have got pension holidays at the moment."

The reduction in tax on profits from 33 to 31 per cent was an "attempt to sugar the pill" said one financial adviser, but its benefits were far outweighed by the 1.5 to 2 per cent addition to wage costs that companies seeking to maintain pension

funding would have to meet. Tax experts have also repeated suggestions that the move, which the Treasury says will raise more than £5bn a year, will reduce rather than increase investment by diverting funds.

Organisations with finalsalary schemes will be legally obliged to increase contributions to meet existing and future liabilities. But a further move away from final-salary schemes to money-purchase plans is widely predicted.

Additional reporting by Sarah Gillinson and Trupty Patel.

Cost to individuals, page 12

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Utility shares bounce back

Chris Godsmark **Business Correspondent**

Utility company share prices soared on the stock market yesterday, despite the heavierthan-predicted levy payments for water and gas businesses, as dealers welcomed the confirmation that the tax would be a

Only Hyder saw its shares marked down after Gordon Brown, Chancellor of the Exchequer, landed the Welsh multi-utility with a bill of £282m. equivalent to a quarter of its market value. Directors of Hyder spent the day locked in a financial review.

We want to come to a conclusion as soon as possible to stop speculation and rumour," said a spokeswoman. Analysis said it could raise the company's gear-ing levels to 170 per cent. Hyder

shares fell 14.5p to 809p. The biggest gainers included the power generators, with National Power shares surging 35.5p to 569.5p, an increase of more than 6 per cent. Power-Gen's share price ended 41.5p higher at 771p. Even BG, the re-named British Gas pipeline busi-ness which will have to pay £513m to the Treasury, saw its share price rise 9p to 238p.

gone in a clean way and the Treasury won't be coming £230m charge as "containable".

David Luffrum, finance dir²⁷

not the scale of the tax, but the

removal of uncertainty. It's now

ector, said: "The windfall tax is not materially harmful. The Government has made clear it is a one-off." Thames shares rose 26p to 766p. But the precise tax bill for two companies, British Energy and the airports operator BAA remained shrouded in confusion. BAA estimated its levy at between £70m and £100mb

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The Street Stree

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Kara ilan

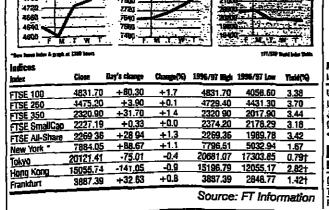
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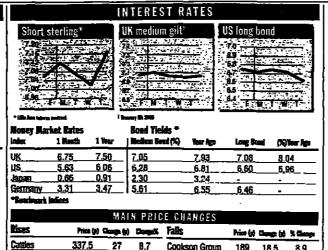
though some City calculations put it much lower. Russell Walls, the finance director, said BAA would have to wait for the publication of the Finance Bill on Monday to

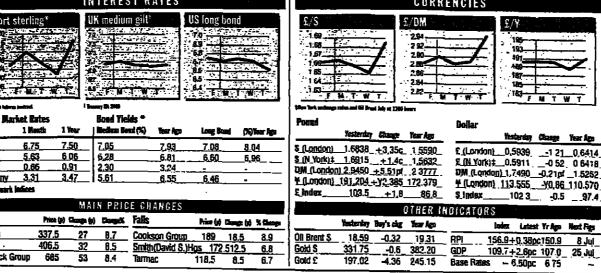
stemmed from the different flotation share prices in 1987 for small investors and City institutions.

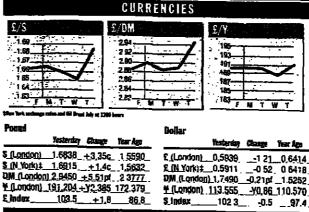
Though BAA was pleased it in the bill. Mr. had a relatively small bill, Mr. Walls criticised the Treasury

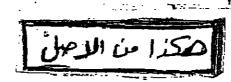
terribly logical. I suppose they had to find some way of raising the money they needed but the Angela Whelan, utilities 23 per cent figure seems a somewhat arbitrary number."











Yesterday Bay's chg Year Ago



WRNW.

ies recover

Market-makers have reason to rue the Budget

It usually takes a day or two for the full impact of a Budget to sink in, but eventual to flog complex long term equity options. ly the City tends to get the message. So it was surprising to see the stock market, having had a night to sleep on it, roaring away yesterday in response to a Budget which on reflection is actually quite bad news for busi-

ness and the City.

Nobody had a credible explanation for why equities should want to do this. The abo-lition of tax credits on dividends reduces the yield on UK equities for pension funds from 3.5 per cent to around 2.8 per cent, so log-ically the market should be falling. With another hike in interest rates just around the corner, the market perhaps ought actually to have been plummeting.

Markets rarely behave in an entirely logi-

cal way, however. The fact that shares rose so strongly may have something to do with a little noticed anti-tax avoidance measure that Gordon Brown slipped into the Budget. Again this was a perverse response to this potentially very nasty little incendiary device. since all the talk in the City yesterday was that the move would cost investment banks hundreds of millions of pounds in trading losses on top of the £500m the Revenue has pencilled in for extra yield over the next five years.

Most of the leading players were vehe-mently denying the scale of these losses yesterday, but their words all rather lacked conviction. A rather different story of panic was told by the growing number City calls to the Inland Revenue yesterday seeking "clarifica-tion". The truth of the matter is that most mar-

Some of these have been used to back the "guaranteed" returns offered by a number of retail funds, thus adding a scare dimension for small investors to the whole story. Others have been sold to wholesale investors.

In pricing the option, market makers have tended to factor in the payment of gross, rather than net dividends. With that loophole now closed, the option becomes worth up to 20 per cent less than it was originally priced at and therefore incapable of delivering the promised return. We'll have to await details next week to learn precisely how these options have been hit by the new rules. Though stories of emergency meetings with the Bank of England might at this stage seem premature, in a worst case scenario it won't be too long before they become a reality. Whatever the case, the City stands to lose

an important tax loophole worth rather more than £100m a year to its market makers. In a business which often struggles to make an adequate return, this could make the dif-

ference between profits and losses. The stock market's willingness to take the abolition of tax credits in its stride is also a curious one, for the effects of this move are very far reaching. Over the next ten years £50bn is transferred from the stock market to the Government. Since there is no such thing as a free hunch, that money has to come from somewhere. Pension holidays that would otherwise be taken by companies will have to be cancelled, previous surpluses will

go unrealised and many companies will have to increase their contributions at a cost of up to 2 per cent of payroll a year.

meeting tough new rules. "It is very important to recognise that I am taking decisions for the long term," he insisted.

For those on personal pensions who behave responsibly and increase their contributions to make up the shortfall, the measure is equivalent to 2p on the rate of income tax. For the majority who don't, the effect is like a delayed tax, for they face rather lower benefits than they would otherwise bave had.

You can argue until the cows come home about the rights and wrongs of this move. and it would ill become us on the Independent, who urged the Chancellor to do it, to now argue that he was wrong. But it certainly all fits rather uncomfortably with the new Government's aim of encouraging long term savings and thrift. For the stock market to be celebrating the whole thing really does rather confirm the "senior Government source" who was recently quoted as saying "the markets are bonkers".

A tough Budget but questions remain

ordon Brown's main claim about his first Gordon Brown's main claim about his first Budget was that it was aimed at im-proving the performance of the economy in the long-term. Just as he had created a framework for monetary policy that would help deliver economic stability, so he was doing the same thing for fiscal policy. Government borrowing would fall during the next five years,

If Mr Brown is genuinely resisting the temptation that afflicts most Chancellors, to manipulate the economy in the short term, he is to be applauded. Fine tuning of the economy via changes in tax and spending has been tried before and failed. It is not a precise enough art to keep growth on a steady course, and besides, frequent changes in the tax system create instability.

There is at least one very good reason to suppose that Mr Brown is sincere in accepting this reasoning. It is that he has handed operational control over interest rates to the Sank of England. If unpopular measures need to be taken to cool the economy, the Bank can be blamed - and it is unlikely to shirk its duty. It is both a sensible move in economic terms and a very astute one

The Chancellor was also right to claim that it was a tough Budget, but the toughness does not stem from the tax increases he introduced. The £6bn headline figure for the increase in the tax burden this year includes £2.6bn of windfall tax which will not in any real sense be money taken out of the economy. It is not going to alter the level of economic activity by the privatised utilities. Most of the rest of the tax increase comes from the abolition of dividend tax credits, which will hit investment in the short term. Consumer spending this year, the likely boom year, will be unaffected by the Budget. However, the Budget introduced a new element of toughness into public spending plans. Despite the headline increases in expenditure on health and education, they represent only an allocation of money already written in to the plans. There is a bit of truly additional expenditure via the welfare to work programme.

On the other hand, the Treasury has revised up its forecast for inflation next year without changing the cash spending total to compensate. The real expenditure growth outlined in yesterday's Budget is lower even than under Kenneth Clarke's ultra-tough plans. As Alistair Darling joked vesterday: "Iron is the nicest word they use about Gor-

don and myself," This kind of toughness is all about setting the public finances on a sustainable footing. As the Chancellor has pointed out, he As the Chancelor has pointed out, he inherited a doubled national debt and a level of government borrowing too high for an economy operating at full capacity. The PSBR is due to fall rapidly but so it should

at this stage of the economic cycle.

So all this is well and good and we shouldn't perhaps be too critical of a Budget which matched these worthy aims which measures which stand a reasonable chance of fulfiling them. But if there was dishon-esty in this Budget it was this - it was Gordon Brown's claim that with the boom now in full swing, he is shifting the balance between consumer and investment spending. If anything, his measures will after the balance the other way, in the short term at least,

Electricity bills to drop by 12 per cent

Chris Godsmark **Business Correspondent**

Household electricity bills are set to fall by 12 per cent from next April, the electricity watchdog, Offer, said yesterday after power groups pass on cheaper pal contracts and lower supply and distribution charges to

The City stands to

lose an important tax

loophole worth rather

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to make an adequate

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between profits

and losses'

make the difference

Professor Stephen Littlechild, the regulator, also gave details of a new price formula for next April's staggered start of domestic power competition. which would give rival suppliers and consumers a much clearer indication of the tariff structure.

In a consultation paper yesterday Professor Littlechild said impact of the various reductions in costs would see average domestic bills drop from £270 excluding VAT this year to £238 next year. He said there

could be further cuts in tariffs from some companies under the current price regime before April, though charges would vary between the 14 regional suppliers across the UK.

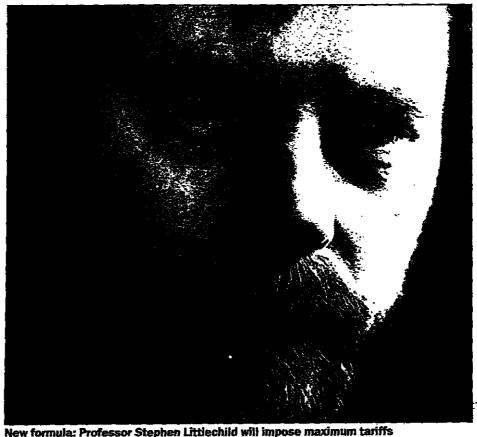
A large chunk of the fall would come from the expiry of high-price coal contracts signed before the privatisation of British Coal, which would feed through to lower generation prices. Generation accounts for more than half of domestic bills. Another important factor was the existing price cap on regional distribution networks, which accounts for around 30 per cent of bills.

proposed for the electricity supply market, the part of regional power companies' businesses which are to be opened to competition, would for the first time wrong at the end of the year.

impose maximum tariffs published at the start of each year. But Professor Littlechild did

not estimate the savings from competition, which are a matter of intense debate in the industry. The supply element accounts for just 6 per cent of bills. Earlier this week Mike Hughes, chief executive of Midlands Electricity, warned it was "difficult to see how immediate price cuts will occur without cherry picking". As competition emerges

from next April, Offer said suppliers would be able to compare tariffs for different groups of consumers. The new charg-In a significant innovation: ing structure would remain Offer said the new price formula fixed throughout the year. Under the existing regime com-panies calculate their tariffs but can recover any revenues lost if they get their estimates



Thames chairman given 64% pay rise

Chris Godsmark

Sir Robert Clarke, the chairman of Thames Water, received a 64 per cent pay rise last year, giving him a hike in his remuneration package of almost £100,000.

The group's annual report and accounts also showed that Bill Alexander, Thames' managing director, was awarded a 40 per cent pay rise. The infor-mation landed on shareholders' doorsteps the day after the Chancellor's windfall levy left the company with a £231m additional tax bill.

The report revealed that the basic salary of Sir Robert, 68, increased by £90,000 to £233,600 in the year to the end of March 1997. With other benefits included, his total pay rose by £96,000 to £247,000, though he has not taken part in the appual bonus scheme.

Mr Alexander saw his pay package increase from £161,000 to £226,000, including formation on pay levels".

a £33,000 bonus. His pension fund was also given a £1 10.000 boost, reflecting the increase in his basic pay, a move which Thames said was made through a charge on its profit and loss account. Thames said the increases fol-

lowed the departure of Michael Hoffman as chief executive in March 1996 and the decision to make Sir Robert a full-time executive chairman. Trevor Newton, the former managing director, also retired soon afterwards. Mr Alexander, who was already running the core utility operation, took on part of Mr Newton's role.

David Luffrum, finance director, said: "We've now got two people doing what was previously done by three. The chairman and managing direcfor were effectively promoted." Mr Luffrum's pay rose by 3.4 per cent, an increase which the group said reflected "performance and previous market in-

Prism to shed another 600 jobs

Andrew Yates

Prism, the AIM-listed rail group which runs train services in South-east England and South Wales, is to make at least another 600 rail workers redundant within the next year. It has already laid off 300 employees since being awarded four rail franchises by the government as part of the controversial privarisation of British Rail, reducing its workforce to 3.600.

Giles Fearnley, chief executive of Prism, said yesterday. Our staff levels will fall further. As a rule of thumb the rail in-

which represents more than 60,000 rail workers, said: "We are extremely unhappy that they are shedding staff. We will take the matter up with the company to assess if they are making unnecessary redundancies."

. The announcement will add to the controversy that has digged the group since Mr Fearnley and nine other founder members of Prism amassed 8 million free shares, strently worth more than £23m, under a controversial share ratchet system which awarded them a big parcel of shares every time they won a new franchise. Prism only ended the scheme after pressure from its institutional shareholders. Mr Fearnley was paid a salary of f180,000 last year but has decided to forego a new share

option package. "I have not been awarded any share options in Prism." Mr Fearnley said yesterday. I now own 1 million shares and felt that was enough incentive to do

Prism announced maiden profits of £6.9m for the 14 months to March before a restructuring cost of £12.4m to cover redundancy payments. Investment column, page 26

BAA pays £406m for US duty-free giant

Chris Godsmark

BAA, the owner of Heathrow and Gatwick Airports, yesterday announced a huge expansion of its duty-free retailing business through a \$674m (£406m) takeover that elevates the group into second place in the world's \$20hn tax-free shopping market. The agreed bid for Duty Free

International (DFI) of Con-necticut, the fifth-biggest duty and tax-free company, means re-tailing will account for up to 60 per cent of BAA's revenues. The deal, which is also the largest in BAA's history, emphasises the group's transformation into a property and retailing business as it approaches its tenth anniversary as a privatised com-pany later this month.

Though BAA had first approached DFI last December, it waited to finalise the deal until it knew its windfall tax bill. The lower-than-expected windfall levy of between £70m and £100m left the group relative-ly unscathed though BAA was forced to bring forward the announcement by a week after

Randeep Ramesh

Transport Correspondent

Railtrack, the owner of the

nation's track, signalling and

stations, is likely to have its

track access charges reviewed by

an independent arbitrator after

complaints from train operat-

ing companies that perfor-

mance payments are too high.

Railtrack has been targeted

by train operators after its ac-counts revealed bonus payments

of £29m for last year because it

had exceeded performance tar-

gets. That compared with a

Connex South Central,

which runs services in Surrey,

Sussex and south London, be-

lieves the benchmark year for

the performance regime was set

too low. This has meant Connex

being charged far more than it

£43m penalty the year before.

It will create a business with sales of more than \$1bn and around 9 per cent of the global duty-free market. The leader is DFS, another US-based group owned by the French luxury goods company LVMH, with about 13 per cent. BAA predicted the world market would expand by at least 15 per cent

cent came from tax-free shopping outlets on the Canadian and Mexican borders with the US. DFL which has 175 stores and employs 2,000 people, began life in 1983 and grew rapidly fol-lowing its flotation in 1989.

Sir John Egan, BAA's chief executive, admitted the takeover was partly a move to defend the group's duty-free interests after 1999, when tax-free shopping on flights between European Union countries could be suspended. It would also give BAA's operations greater strength to bid for European concessions, should the

Arbitrator may review

Railtrack's charges

Eaux, has appointed a legal team to examine the possibility

of taking action. Although the

number of minutes lost to train

delays has improved by 38 per

cent. Connex has paid out nearly £10m more to Railtrack.

talking through the disputes resolution committee - an in-

ternal railway body designed to prevent disputes escalating.

moment and want to get it sorted out at quickly as

possible," said a spokeswoman

for Railtrack. "Connex South

Central have expressed a view about the details of a contrac-

tual arrangement with us and

have indicated an intention to

However, senior sources at

seek changes within that."

We are in discussions at the

At present, the two sides are

expected. The company, owned by French giant Générale des there is no movement we will go

the whole way".

What has angered many rail-way executives is that Railtrack

managed to extract a "supple-

mentary access charge" worth £75m in 1996. Although this

dwindles to zero in 2001, Rail-

track's prospectus said that

directors "do not believe that

will be sufficient to match the re-

ductions in the supplements".

problem is that the yardstick

vear chosen was 1994 - a par-

ticularly bad year for the

railways whose performance

could easily be exceeded. Tom

aprovements (in performance)

Industry sources say the

DFI shares were suspended on rumours in New York. EU agree to let duty-free shop-rum continue. Most contracts come up for renewal on 30 June 1999.

There is a defensive quality, I have to say, yes, "said Sir John. Describing the possible abolition of intra-EU duty-free sales as a "crisis", he predicted the concession would remain after

heavy lobbying from operators. The offer values DFI shares at \$24, a 19 per cent premium were from in-flight and sirport. BAA said DFI investors speak-retailing, while a further 36 per cent came from two from the said DFI investors speakundertakings to accept the deal.

Sir John said BAA had identified cost savings of £15m over three years from the deal, largely through tougher pur-chasing power. He said there was no overlap between the two operations and no job losses were planned. Four senior DFI executives had been given contracts to stay with the group for

BAA will pay for DFI from existing resources, setting part of the cost against a £260m bond issue in January 1996.

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Offer Must End

insor, a leading railway lawyer, said if a train operating company could not settle the matter with Railtrack it could simply start

As a rule of thumb the rail industry will probably reduce staff by about 25 per cent. Our own reduction will be in line with this, At LTS [London Tilbury and Southend staff reductions could be as high as 30 per cent. Prism employs 600 people on the LTS line.

A spokesman for the Rail Maritime and Transport Union, which represents more than

£5bn Lockheed deal creates defence goliath

David Usborne New York and Chris Godsmark

The frenzy of consolidation that has gripped the United States defence industry since the close of the Cold War reached a new pitch vesterday as Lockheed Martin announced it was to buy Northrop Grumman for

\$8.3bn (£5bn). If it escapes the radar of the competition watchdogs in Washington, the deal will forge a global goliath with a workforce of almost a quarter of a million and annual sales in the region of \$37bm

It also puts the fragmented European defence industry under further pressure to consolidate. British Aerospace, which has pioneered the drive to consolidate Europe's warring manufacturers into little more than a timely reminder of the need to move faster.

While experts saw considerable logic in the strategy of Lockheed Martin, there was also widespread shock. Northrop Grumman had stated repeatedly over recent months that it intended remaining in-

By virtue of the few players that will be left, it will probably be the last of the mega-mergers in the US defence industry. Almost certainly, it was driven by proposed acquisition of Mc-Donnell Douglas by Boeing. That deal, which is worth \$14bn, received US government approval only this week but remains under scrutiny by the

European Commission. Both Lockheed Martin and Northrop Grumman are themselves recent products of the extraordinary consolidation rush. The former was created by the merger of Lockheed and Mar-

tin Marietta in 1995, while the latter is the fruit of the 1994 marriage of Northrop Corp and Grumman Corp.

There has been a joke in defence circles for some time that soon there would be just three defence rivals in the US: "McBoeing". "LockMartin" and "RayHughes". The latter is a composition of Raytheon, which is itself in the process of ingesting the Hughes Electronics division of General Motors.

"Lockheed Martin and Northrop Grumman have been leaders in consolidating the aerospace industry, and we are now taking the next logical step in combining together to shape the future," said Lockheed's The deal is set to be closed by

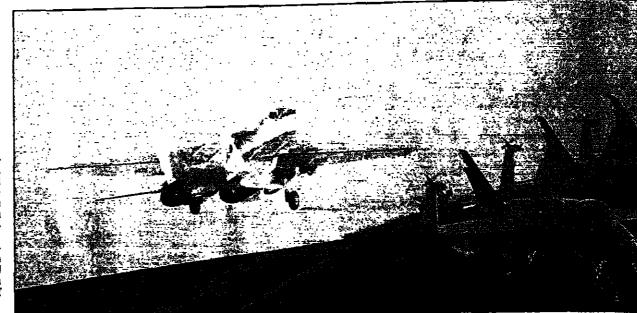
the end of the year. By comparison, the progress towards consolidation among Europe's defence and aerospace companies has been

painfully slow. Despite the urg-ings of Sir Richard Evans, BAe's chief executive, national governments have been unable to agree terms towards the aim of using the Airbus consortium as the template for a wider de-fence rationalisation.

BAe has remained caught between its continued interest in bidding for GEC, which will next week outline its long-term strategy, and the bigger prize of cross-border mergers.

A BAe spokesman said yes-terday. This only serves to remind us in Europe that we really need to get on with things. We would all like to move faster, though US businesses have the advantage of all being chairman, Norman Augustine. in the same country with the same rules.'

The Pentagon has been candid about encouraging the recent spate of mergers on the grounds that they would offer better pricing at a time when



On the defensive: The industry behind planes such as the F-14 Tomcat has had to regroup since the end of the Cold Wi

procurement programmes are on the decline. Both companies vesterday said they had had informal contacts with the Pentagon about the deal.

The likely reaction of competition officials is far less sure. however. This week, for instance, regulators definitively blocked a giant merger in the of-fice supply sector between the deal it would have done it a few

Staples and Office Depot stores. Among analysts welcoming vesterday's deal was Jon Kutler of QuarterDeck Investment Part-

ners. Pointing out that both Lockheed and Northrop had been consistently bidding for the same contracts recently, he said: "You would have thought if Lockheed wanted to do this

years ago and taken a competitor out of the marketplace.

This is an obvious fit." Lockheed, based in Maryland. is best known for producing the F-16 fighter jet, the C-130 lift plane and the F-117 stealth fightfornia, builds the B-2 Stealth bomber and the F-18 fighter jet as well as some parts of the Boe-

ing 777, 757 and 767 jethners. Lockheed Martin has had an especially good run recently, snaring, for example, the contract to build the next generation of space shuttles.

with Northrop by joining forces with it to bid for the contract to build the Joint Strike Fighter for the US Air Force.

BAR GLAYS MEN FOR BUSINESS

Four eigarette companies, including the UK's BAT Industries, have settled a lawsuit brought by the state of Mississippi for more than \$3bn (£1.8bn). The deal will guarantee that the state will still receive its share of last month's landmark \$368bn agreement with the industry even if the agreement fails to gain Federal approval. The companies will pay \$170m by 15 July and 1.7 per cent of last month's global deal. Further payments will start at \$68m next year, rising to \$136m from the sixth year. As well as BAT, Philip Morris, RJR Nabisco and Loews are covered by the settlement, which averts the need for a trial to recover the costs of treating smokers, which was due to begin next week. However, Florida said it would continue with a trial, due to begin on 4 August. to recover \$1bn of the alleged costs of the state Medicaid health insurance from the tobacco industry.

IN BRIEF

Cigarette firms settle lawsuit for \$3bn

Heron to spend £80m on development

Heron International, headed by Gerald Ronson, has bought a central London site for a 115,000 square foot development project from Lloyds Bank. The cost of the development, including the land, will be £80m. In May Heron said it would spend £100m to develop another 190,000 square foot site in the City. "We are making good progress in meeting our objective of building one of Europe's leading property groups," said Mr Ronson, who has spent £500m in the past seven months on several leisure-based projects in Europe. Heron said the property at 40-66 Queen Victoria Street, close to the Bank of England, had planning consent to build an office structure with 12,000 square foot floors and underground parking. Construction of the project, which does not yet have a principal tenant, is expected to begin in early 1998 and completion is scheduled for 1999.

CRH acquisitions total Ir£48m

CRH, the Irish building materials group, announced Ir£48m of acquisitions and investments, offset by divestments of Ir£39m. Four deals in North America earlier this year, ranging from glass tempering in Toronto to an aggregates businesses in southern Colorado and northern New Mexico, came to a total of Irf22m. An Ir£13m investment programme has begun at Irish Cement, while acquisitions and investments in Holland and Belgium came to Ir£13m. Sales in the first six months of 1997 include surplus assets of the US Tilcon business acquired last year, road surfacing operations in South-east England and half shares in a Dutch concrete additives operation and a German paving manufacturer.

ScottishPower sells Paperstream

ScottishPower has sold Paperstream, one of the non-core busi nesses owned by its subsidiary, Southern Water, to Hays, the business services group, for £11.8m. Paperstream, which provides invoicing and payment processing services, was originally part of Southern Water's billing department. In the year to March 1997, Paperstream made pre-tax profits of £1.2m on sales of £14.7m, up 48 per cent on the year before. Southern Water has so far raised more than £24m from its divestment programme.

One 2 One signs up 80,000 customers

One 2 One, the mobile phone company which is jointly owned by Cable & Wireless and US West, lured 80,000 net new customers between April and June, second only to Orange, which said at the beginning of the week it had attracted 86,000 new customers. Vodafone dropped back to last place in the growth stakes, adding just 53,000 net new customers. One 2 One's figures represent an increase of 167 per cent over the same period last year. The company said yesterday it had increased its share of the total UK market for mobile phones from 7.2 per cent in June last year to 9.5 per cent this year.

Management buys BWAT coach business

Barr & Wallace Arnold Trust sold its Wallace Arnold coach tour travel business to its management for a sum "in excess of £40m".

The company had been in talks to sell the division to Shearings. the former coaches division of Rank, but in May it threw the bid open and invited other offers. Staff had protested about the possible sale to Shearings, and took out a full-page advertisement in the Yorkshire Post saying that shareholders would not be getting value for money if BWAT talked to only one bidder. The £40m BWAT has accepted from management, which had the backing of 3i, is believed to be more than the price offered by Shearings.

Borthwicks in takeover talks

Borthwicks, the company which manufactures food and drink flavours, announced yesterday it was in talks with a number of parties. Borthwicks said the discussions may or may not lead to bid being made for the company. At the AGM, Peter Brackenridge, chairman, said trading during the first quarter had been satisfactory and was comfortably ahead of the same quar ter last year.

Abolition of stamp duty

Our report yesterday on the abolition of stamp duty said that the increase to 1.5 per cent on property purchases over £250,000 and 2 per cent above £500,000 would not apply to contracts exchanged before 8 July, when the new measures are expected to become law. In fact, the cut-off date for exchange of contracts was on Budget day, 2 July. Completions taking place after that date will avoid the new increases only if contracts were exchanged before the Budget announcement.

	Compa	ny Resu	Its	
	Ternover S	Pre-tax £	EPS	Divident
Break For The Border (F)	24.7m (19.0m)	1 77m (1.11m)	4.73p (3.21p)	1 8p (1 85p)
Lespoid Joseph (F)	- (-)	1.84m (2.47m)	24.47p (28.55p)	20p (-)
Prism Rell (†)	199.2m (-)	-5.45m (-)	-37.7p (-)	n i (·)
Steddard Sekers (F)	55.0m (\$5 1m)	0.72m (-0.73m)	0.92p (-1.6p)	0.75p (0.75p)
Universal Salvage (F)	57.1m (46.0m)	3.42m (3.96m)	8.35p (11.05p)	5 2p (5.07p)

European Monetary Union A guide for businesses BARCIAYS Europe's biggest issue. Covered in the one issue. The single currency. Are you for it or against it? Either way, your company will undoubtedly be affected by it, which is why you should take a look at our new guide. You'll find it covers many of the concerns facing you; from operations and systems, to payments, pricing, accounting, banking and more. We will also provide regularly updated briefings to keep you abreast of changes as and when they occur. So if you want to uncover all the issues, start by reading between these covers. Call Freephone 0800 535 354 to get your copy now.

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MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN

stock market reporter of the year

minster when framing the was the removal of dividend tax relief on shares held for trad-Such a chaotic backdrop made a nonsense of traditional trading. By common consent try at least £500m this year but the market would open lower; perhaps much more. And it did - and then, to the asmore importantly, it appears to tonishment of many, soared. have left many of the more Heavy futures trading spread to the cash market with often tive contracts wrongly priced, panicky buying of blue chips. The expected abolition of ACT

exacerbated the confusion. Suggestions market-makers, already suffering from short positions established ahead of the Budget, had to contend with a flood of overseas orders

Tesco led the way with a 32p surge to 406.5p, followed by Railtrack, up 53p to 685p. At one time financials were the the City's hugely complicated as foreign investors jumped in one time financials were the derivatives industry had not because of London's growing stars. Then came the stories of derivatives distress. Barelays been taken on board by West- appeal merely piled on the had to settle for a 26.5p gain agony. after being up 91p.
The fallers were mostly the

Second and third liners again missed the party, underlining the blue-chip turmoil. The FTSE 250 index was up a strength and expectations it will move even higher. TI retreated mere 3.9 points and the FTSE SmallCap index 0.3.

The bewildering excitement prompted some strategists to pull back their Footsic forecasts. Dresdner Kleinwort Benson is keeping its year-end estimate at 5,000 points but Lehman Brothers has moved from 5,000 to 4,800. HSBC is sticking with 4,600 and ABN Amro Hoare Govett with 4,500.

was put down to the departure of finance director, David Newlands, which is seen as the latest development paving the way for the merger with British The blue-chip leader board Aerospace.

to 959p.

was dominated by retailers

and utilities; the former en-

Budget and the later relieved

by the scale of the windfall tax.

great and the good of British

industry, hit by sterling's

32p to 479.5p and GKN 49.5p

one of the few industrials to

buck the trend. But its progress

General Electric Co was

Reports of futures casualties cause market chaos Lourho lost 7p to 133.5p following JCTs option to buy the Johnson Fry's two utilities joying the benign nature of the 27 per cent stake held by Anglo American. Merger talks Simply as one and two. In were dropped this week. Option price is 155p.

ADT, the security group, jumped 310p to 4,225p as the merger with fyco international was completed. Universal Salvage softened 6p to 117.5p, a low. Pre-tax profits fell 26 per cent to £3.42m. The shares were float-

ed at 149p in August, 1995, and went on to hit 286p. Acorn, the computer group, slipped ip to 172.5p; Olivetti, the Italian group, duly sold 14.71 per cent, cutting its stake

to 16.49 per cent. Barr & Wallace Arnold advanced 31.5p to 293.5p after saying it had accepted a management buy-out bid of more than £40m for its leisure side. The buy-out price is considerations they seem underpriced and a bidder

Price Data Share Price Data

☐It's been a go-go time for investment trusts, known share have grown from 125.95p to 132.53p for the JF number one trust and from 116.96p to 123.78p for the second trust. Shares of the two have responded, with the first trust up from 75p in August to 113p and the second going from 65p to 103p. The response this week to the utilities tax should add to the JF

Amid yesterday's mayhem Brent International, the chemical group, attracted some intriguing deals. The shares climbed off their 12month low, gaining 4p to 74p. On trading



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THE INTERNATION

huge losses in the whirlpool of the futures market. turnover - with Seaq recording 1.3 billion shares - supported the theory of desperate buying by desperate dealers.

Data Bank FISE 100

FISE 250

4831.7

Footsie in the past few weeks has been a nightmare for derivative players, big and small sophisticated, bespoke deriva-It would not be surprising if heavy losses have been suffered in the futures minefield

although market talk of almost fatal blows and mega-buck by agreement or, if that proves deficits are probably over the

One rumour suggested an

session with Footsie, in heavy

It was a day of swirling

rumours with claims that some

leading players had suffered

The dramatic surge in

The sheer volatility of

impossible, the securities house involved must take the hit. There were angry claims overall industry loss of £600m; that some of the finer points of

to balance the risk.

Yet another extraordinary it was later refined to a £600m

its losses.

disaster for one house.

The rumour mill also

churned out the story that an

investment bank had trooped

along to the Bank of England

to ask for assistance in handling

to the turmoil. Slipped quietly

among his Budget measures

ing purposes. The shock move

will cost the securities indus-

forcing shares to be purchased

They will have to be adjusted

And Gordon Brown added

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Property sector a Budget winner

The property and building sectors were moving in different directions yesterday as investors reacted to Wednesday's Budget. The general view was that the changes announced by the Chancellor. Gordon Brown, were almost called such measures "utterly futile". primary schools with computers and pop-Chancellor, Gordon Brown, were almost unalloyed good news for property companies, but less good for construction and building materials shares. So while Land Securities, one of the UK's biggest property groups, basked as its shares rocketed up 53p to 924.5p, RMC, a big aggregates producer, was in the doldrums, drooping 37p to 934p.

As the share price charts show, part of yesterday's reaction merely reflects relief that analysts' worst fears were not realised. Wild rumours have been running around the property sector since the beginning of June that stamp duty was about to rise from 1 per cent to as much as 6 per cent. As it happened, the graduated 1.5 and 2.0 per cent bands announced will raise property transaction costs from 2.75 per cent to a maximum 3.75 per cent.

More importantly, the decision to the property sector. Even before the Budget, survey evidence suggested more than £3bn of institutional funds were seeking a home in the property secondary schools and two-fifths of its currently hefty telephone charges market. The argument now runs that, with the yield on the FT All Share index in effect dropping from 3.5 to 2.8 per cent, the average initial yield of 7.9 per cent on direct property investment looks even more attractive.

Of course, property companies' dividends will be caught up in the ACT backdraft, but if institutional cash starts flowing into the sector, property values will inevitably rise. Companies with quality assets in London and the South-east, such as British Land and Brixton Estates, should do well as a result, although observers underline the need for selection. Those who want a more direct stake in the commercial property market should look at unitlinked pooled investment funds, although liquidity can be a problem.

Fears of a "gravel tax" hit aggregates producers such as RMC. Redland and Tarmac, but until the details of any Government move are known, the share 102.5 price falls are just shots in the dark.

Elsewhere, observers poured scorn on the Chancellor's rhetoric about the threat from an overheating housing market, suggesting the stamp duty changes and the cut in mortgage interest relief from 15 to 10 per cent next year will do little to dampen demand. Kevin Cammack of Merrill Lynch

Investors are advised to await the outcome of next week's Bank of Eng-land monetary policy committee before committing large sums to the market.

RM cashes in on IT revolution

M, the UK's leading supplier of computer systems to schools and colleges, should be a big beneficiary from yesterday's Budget. Gordon Brown's pledge to add £1bn to the funding of schools for a year from April 1998 and another £1.3bn from the windfall tax over the next five years to tackle repairs and bring IT up to date will mean more available cash for inabolish institutional tax credits is be- formation technology. Of the £21bn ing seen by analysts as likely to redi-that British schools currently have to rect large amounts of City money into spend each year, less than 1 per cent

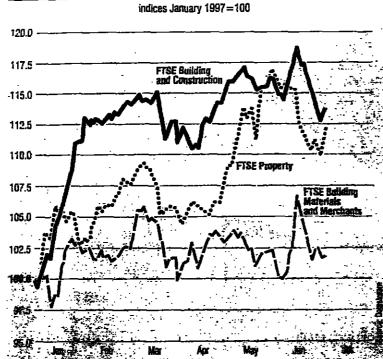
£200m – goes on IT. RM has muscled in on the obvious ar-

ular educational software. One of its best products is SuccessMaker. A government study showed that using it for just 15 min-utes a day for six months improved chil-dren's maths skills three-fold. What's more, RM continues to grab share from its only big rival, Exemplar, a joint venture between Apple and Acorn.

One reason is the weakness of Exemplar's package. The group still uses non-standard proprietary software, while RM offers the more universal Microsoft system, compatible with educational publishers like Dorling Kindersley, and sells directly to schools. offering good back-up support.

RM's Internet service offers even greater potential. The group supplies more than half of the UK's secondary schools with dial-up Internet services and a lucrative network connection which allows a whole classroom to use the Internet simultaneously. For use of the system, schools pay around £3,000 a year. Mike Greig, finance director, reckons that RM has more than two-

Property and construction: At a glance



sol 5p vesterday, putting them on a for-ward multiple of 30 times. Obviously not cheap, but given the prospects they could still go higher.

Prism on track for profits

rism Rail is one of a clutch of companies founded specifically to bid for the 25 rail operating companies sold off by the government as part of the privatisation of British Rail. The shares steamed ahead after it floated on the Alternative Investment Market last year as rail fever spread among investors. The logic ran that the rail companies, like Railtrack, were priced for a quick sale.

But there has been a growing suspicion that some of the companies are not the bargains they first appeared. In the clamour to win more franchises. some bidders may have pitched their demand for government subsidies too low, which could plunge them into the red. Prism has looked particularly at risk and its shares have nearly halved since peaking at 580p in January.

While there is no doubt that Prism's share price got ahead of itself, its slump looks harsh. So far its franchises are doing well. Passenger revenues grew 7.5 per cent last year and are now running up 9 per cent. Innovations such as combined rail and bus links, new rail cards and extra commuter services have proved a hit. And Prism is still brimming with new ideas: station lighting and security cameras are next on its list of improvements. It has also struck a good deal leasing 44 new trains and it now plans a flom refit of old stock. which should help passenger growth.

Prism made a profit of £6.9m in the 14 months to March, before a £12.4m charge to cover inevitable redundancy costs. Of course, so far it has done the easy bit, improving services which had been sadly neglected for years. It could find it harder going if the economy falters, which invariably means a tail off in rail passenger numbers. And profits will be lumpy as subsidies decline. Even so, the shares, up 20p at 300p, look good value on a forward pie ratio of 6, assuming analysts' profit forecasts of £15m are realised this year.

An armadillo has taken control of the economy

Gordon Brown's an armadillo - official. Accountancy firm BDO Stoy Hayward launched a Budget web site on the Internet this week to advise clients on the Budget's effects and included a questionnaire for owner-managed

The firm asked: "Considering the Budget's measures, has Chancellor Brown turned out to be (a) an 'iron' chancellor: (b) a 'marshmallow chancellor; or (c) an

'armadillo' chancellor?' The result of this test as of last night was 95 votes for armadillo, 55 for marshmallow and 45 for iron. So, the Chancellor's shaped like half a rugby ball and comes from South America. I knew it all along.

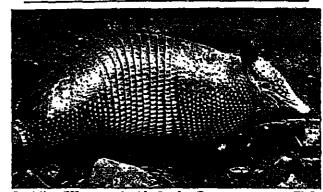
There's another Gordon Brown who hasn't had quite so good a week: Gordon Brown the co-owner of Sunday Business, the newspaper, whose company. Group 2000, has gone belly up.

His dump truck to printers company was advertised for sale by receivers from Coopers & Lybrand this week. What will this mean for Sunday Business, which Mr Brown co-owns with thirtysomething entrepreneur Lake Johnson? Watch this space.

Christopher Haskins, chairman of Northern Foods, has been appointed by Dr David Clark, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, to chair the Government's taskforce on better regulation.

The taskforce is an independent panel set up "to advise the Government on action which improves the effectiveness and credibility of government regulation by ensuring that it is necessary. fair and affordable, and simple to understand and administer, taking account of the needs of small business and ordinary people".

Well, if it can do that, Mr Haskins will deserve a heredPEOPLE & BUSINESS



itary peerage at the very

least. Mr Haskins, 60, has worked for Northern Foods since 1962. He's a member of the Round Table on Sustainable Development, the CBI Presidents Council and the Hampel Committee on Corporate Governance, so he's definitely one of the "great and the good". He'll need all his experience for his new job, however.

You might not think of the law as a "fast-moving good" but City law firm Nicholson Graham & Jones thinks othcrwise. The firm has just chosen drinks specialist Andy Nash to advise it on strategic business issues and he says he is looking forward to bringing a totally fresh approach and some hardhitting ideas from the world of fast-moving goods".

Mr Nash is an ex-managing director at Taunton Cider and became managing director at Matthew Clark Taunton when the latter

bought the former. It will be fascinating to see how a Square Mile law firm compares to a cider maker. The firm recently advised Mohamed Al Fayed on the acquisition of Fulham Football Club, and Wandsworth Borough Council on the redevelopment of Battersea Power Station as a giant

cinema complex. No doubt NGI's senior partners will soon be scrumping for

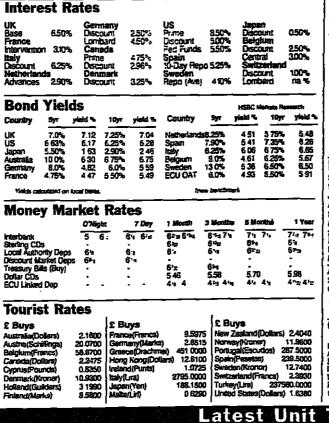
Here's another unlikely connection between business and booze: Rio Tinto's new logo is red because "rio tinto means wine-coloured river in Spanish and vino tinto is red wine." according to John Hughes, a spokesman for the company, "It seemed logical to select a rich, red-wine edour for our logo," he writes in the latest company in-house magazine.

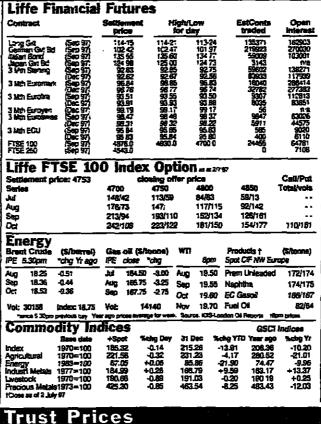
Bill Dacombe has seen a lot of water flow under the bridge since he took over Brown Shipley in 1941 in order to rescue the crisis-hit stockbroker. Last year he sold the company to Midlands broker Albert E Sharp. and now he is succeeding Simon Sharp as chairman.

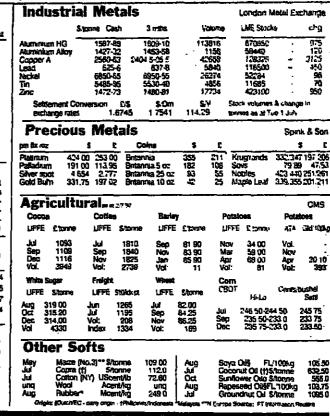
Mr Dacombe's career before 1991 was in banking. He says that when he joined Brown Shipley he found that "everyone was miserable because British monetary policy was being run to sat-isfy conditions for the ERM. It was only with White Wednesday in September 1992 that people started to make money instead of losing it all the time."

John Willcock







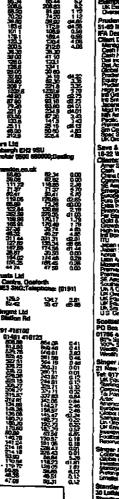


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Bridgwa**ter**

Barro et se with E

S

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sport

The Stewards' Cup at Goodfew weeks later are probably ibe most fiercely competitive sprint handicaps of the season, and it takes a horse of unusual ability to win both in the same year. Lochsong, who completed the double as a three-yearold in 1992, soon developed into the best sprinter of her generation, so there should be no need for pessimism when Coastal Bluff, winner of both events last season, makes his long-awaited seasonal debut in the July Cup at Newmarket next

David Barron, Coastal Bluff's trainer, might have opted to run instead in a Listed event at Sandown tomorrow, but when your stock in trade is handicappers, it is difficult to re-sist a Group One entry when the opportunity arises. Coastal Bluff roared down Barron's gallops yesterday morning and the trainer needed no further encouragement.

"He worked well and he will go to Newmarket," Barron said afterwards. "We are taking a hell of a big bite but he worked every bit as well as he ever did last year and Kevin Darley said he has done a lot of good physically since he last sat on him six weeks ago. The race at Sandown wasn't a gift at all, the prize money if he is placed in the July Cup is more than if he won at Sandown, and if he is go-ing to get beaten he might as well be stuffed by good horses."

If the gelding is approaching peak fitness, however, there is little reason to think he will be race. Those who wish to back beaten all that far. His cosy vic- her without having to accept tory under 9st 10lb at Ayr last odds-on can now do so, since September was one of the most Coral have opened a book on impressive performances in a whether she will win by more handicap all year (and his pre- than two lengths. Henry Cecil's vious success at Goodwood was filly is 2-1 to beat her four rivals another), and as the season pro- by up to that margin, while it is gresses. Coastal Bluff may well 11-4 that she will win by further. prove to be the most significant Given her performance in the rival to Royal Applause in the Prince of Wales's Stakes at major sprints.

JOHN NEW

winner at York and Royal As- lengths, there may be plenty of cot this year, will probably start takers for the latter offer this as favourite for the July Cup, morning.

and is certainly Barron's idea of his most dangerous opponent. "He has come back really well this year," he said. "People say that there are no good sprintwood and the Ayr Gold Cup a ers around but you don't realise how good they are until they are gon

When the weights for this year's Stewards' Cup were published on Monday, Coastal Bluff was at the head of the list, but his handicapping days are surely behind him and there will be few takers for the early price of 16-1 against him. Instead, punters yesterday launched a eamble on Danetime (at least, that is the bookies' story), who runs in the seemingly ever-pre-sent colours of Michael Tabor. Danetime was responsible

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Scaraben (Hamilton 7.10) NB: Another Nightmare (Hamilton 8.10)

for the second and last major reverse of Tabor's otherwise impeccable season when, having been backed down to favouritism, he just failed to overhaul Selhurstpark Flyer in the Wokingham at Royal Ascot. Tabor, who is not exactly a 50p each-way man when it comes to betting, will be hoping to get his money back at Glorious Goodwood, and Danetime is now an 8-1 chance from 12-1 with

The same firm sponsors the Eclipse Stakes at Sandown tomorrow, and while they have seen steady support for Pilsudski, the second-favourite, all week. Bosra Sham remains a solid market leader for the Royal Ascot, when she quick-Barry Hills's colt, already a ened right away to win by eight

Bridgwater to sue owner over dismissal

David Bridgwater yesterday underlined his determination to has been issued. make a fresh start as a freelance jump jockey despite taking legal action over his sacking by the owner Darren Mercer.

Bridgwater quit his job as ing last season, eventually linking up with Mercer, who had taken his horses away from the champion jumps trainer. But Mercer terminated the agreecovering from a broken left arm, to sue for a reported

"My agreement with Mr Mercer has been terminated and I will be riding freelance when I come back from injury," Bridgwater said. "I just want to Martin Pipe's stable jockey dur- get on with my career, the whole thing winds me up. I want

to get back to riding horses." Mercer, meanwhile, has indicated he will contest the action. "I am very, very surprised. No ment on 30 May prompting monies are due to him and any proceedings which are issued against me will be vigorously defended," he said.

RACING RESULTS

CATTERICK
2.20: 1. ORNEL GRIL U F Egen) 7-4 tav,
2. Beechwood Quest 6-1; 3. Heyburnar
14-1. 13 ms. 1*4. 6, 19 Ears), 1045: 52.70;
11.40, 22.30, £4.20. DF: £20.90. CSP:
£12.68, Trax £131.00. MR: Taksheart, Turl or. 2.50: 1. HASTA LA VISTA (L Dettor) 11-8

2.50: 1. MASTA LA VISTA (I. Delton) 11-8 for; 2. Thereof Minchief 4-1; 3. Gymerak Tiger 20-1. 7 ran. 1½, 2½, M W Easterbyl. Totac £1.80; £1.10, £2.60. DF: £4.60. CSF. £7.08.
3.20: 1. INATINGA (5 Ouffield 2-1; 2. Quest For Bust 11-4; 3. Welfcome Inn 11-2.4 ran. 7-4 for Welfcoholt (4th). 8, 2. (M South). Totac £2.50. DF: £2.90. CSF: £7.19.

19. 9.50: 1. THREE POR A POUND () Fortune)

3.50: 1. THREE FUR A POUND U FOUND 7-1: 2. Mariet 7-1: 3. Ni Maritable 50-1. 13 ma. 11-4 few Her Spirks. Strond, 3%. U Glover, Yoke: £12.10: £2.60, £1.90, £8.50. DF: £39.30. CSF. £48.58. Whost: £2.162.68. DF: £30.30. CSF: £48.58, Integer: £2.102.03
This: £503.90 (part wort).
4.20: 1. Shareh "A" SHADM" (6 Duffield)
9-4 fav; 2. Leged lesses 9-1; 3. (lossed 12-1.
7 res. 4., 1%. (C Ward). Table: £3.20:
£1.40, £2.00. DF: £5.80. CSF: £20.49.
4.50: 1. RUM LAD (I Lowel 4-1; 2.
WHIELDA'S Well 3-1; 3. King Uno 2-1 fav, 7
man. 1%. 2%. (J Quinn). Teter: £6.40:
£3.30, £1.50. DF: £6.90. CSF: £16.29.
Places of: £27.80. Quantipot: £80.90.
Places of: £33.45.

HAYDOCK 2.10: 1 BRANDONVILLE (R Studiome) 2.10: 1. BRANDONYELE IR SUMMORED 10-1; 2. Bashard Lady 11-2; 3. Prince Part-ner 7-1, 9 rm. 11-4 for Causino (4m), 1%, 1%, in Tribler, Meltoni, Totac £14.30; 12.70, £1.40, £1.50, DF, £32.20, CSF, 17.45, 17.45, 17.70, Ed. 744, £1.55, 10. E2.70, £1.40, £1.50, DF: £32.20, CSF: £57.45, Tricest £378.66, Trice £56.10, 2.40r.1, Tricest £378.66 (Dote) 6-1; 2. Stemmen 33-1; 3. Hope Value 9-1, 7 ran. 4-6 faw Nothy (4m), ½, 1½, U Serry, Cocketham), Totac £4.00; £1.40, £8.30, DF: £55.20, CSF: £134.44, NF: Companya Commiss.



3.10:1. SHELTERING SKV (K Dorien) 3-1: 2. Khantang 2-1 far; 3. Summerosa 4-1, 14 ran. 1½, 3. () Durien, Arundel). Tota: £3.70; £1.70, £1.60, £1.30, DP: £5.30, CSP: £7.65. Tro: £3.70.

27.55. Troc E3.70.
3.40: 1. DEBLITANTE DAYS (R Hughes)
8-1: 2. Peppers 5-1: 3. Budy Souze 5-1.
8 ten. 9-4 tev Ketnyn's Pat (4th). 1V., V.,
A Stewart, Neuropen'D. Tobe: 25.60; 22.10,
52.30. DF: £20.40. CSF: £39.26. 4.10: 1. DESERT LYNK (R Hughes) 16-1; 2. Soffin Darrothy 6-1; 2. See Health Buy 11-2, 13 ren, 7-2 ky Gernock Vakey, 2, hd. (T Weisson, Ford), Toles, E22.30; 54-50, 52.10, 52.00. DF: £205.70. CSP: £98.66. Theast: £571.73. Trice £175.00.

4.40: 1 FOREIGN RILLE (R Havin) 11-2; Thornby Park 8-11 fax; 3- Writisar 15-2. E res. 1%, 7% (P Chapple-Hyam, Menton). Total: £6.30; £2.10, £1.20, BP: £3.50, CSF: £9.26.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £11,387.97 car ried forward to Warwick today).
Placepost: £443.00, Quadrot: £15.50.
Place &: £690.53. Place 5: £204.25. YARMOUTH

2.00: 1. FARTH ALONE: OR MUSER) 11-2; 2. Dom Peipe 4-1; 3. WHA Palan 8-1. 10 cm. 3-1 ian News Think Indoa (Ath), 4, hd. (C Wal, Newmarket), Totor: £6.40; £2.40. £1.80, £1.50, DF: £18.20. CSP: £23.51. Tricast: £154.75. This: £34.10. 2.30: 1. FIVEO'CLOCK SHADOW (M Teb-

2.30 I. HYDE CALLAR SHEAT (in 12) but) 12-8 fax; 2. Captain Biles 7-1; 3. Estroped 15-2 10 ran. 2½, sh to. (8) Mornan, (ambourn), Totar £2.40; £1.10, £1.40, £2.90. DF: £6.20. CSF: £10.20. Tho: £17,40. NR: High Cony. 3.00: 1. SNOW NOD (Pat Eddery) 4-5 tav; hence 100-30; 3. Royale Figurine 11-2. ran, 27, 174. () Loder, Newmarket). Tobar 6 ren. 24, 1%. (D Loder, Newmarket). Total £1.90: £1.30, £1.40, DF: £2.40, CSF.

3.30: 1. KARMSKA (S Carson) 7-2; 2 listant 11-10 fav; 3. key Guest 7-4. 4 ran. 1%, 3. (M Chapman, Market Ra Tota: £4.20, DF: £3.00, CSF: £7.42. Tota: £4.20. DF: £3.00. CSF: £7.42.
4.00: 1. SPANMARD'S MOUNT (M Henry)
7-2: 2. Trojan Hano Bens fev; 3. Hever Gelf
Englie 14-1. 9 ran. 2½, hd. (M Tomplots,
Newmarket), Totas: £4.70; £1.10. £1.10.
£4.00. DF: £5.20. CSF: £6.84. Tot. £70.20.
NR. Apenbah, What A Fuss.
4.30: 1. NAZEDON (R Hels) 4-9 £av; 2.
Behold 11-2: 3. Lone Piper 13-2. 5 ran.
½, ½. (E Durdon, Newmarket). Totas: £1.40;
£1.10, £1.90. DF: £2.40. CSF: £3.19.
8.00: 1. CALSEQUIA (Miss J Allson) 5-1:

£1.10, £1.90. DF; £2.00; 1. GF; 52.00; 1. CALSRDULA (Miss) Allison) 5-1; 2. Squared Awdy 12-1; 3. Anchor Venture 10-1. 10 cms. 7-2 tay Betas Gate Boy (Ath). 14. (D Morley, Neumarket, Totas 58.30; 51.50, £4.00, £2.80. DF; £46.80. CSF; £80.32, Tricost; £528.57. Tro; £454.50 (part

Pleaspot: £32,70. Quadpot: £10.20. Place 6: £24,03. Place 5: £7.97.

SANDOWN

2.35 Muhtathir

2.00 NOPALEA (nap) 3.40 Daunting Lady 4.10 Therhea

3.10 Sofyaan (nb) 4.40 Book At Bedtime GOING: Round course - Good (Good to Soft in places); Straight course - Good to Soft. (Good in places). STALLS: Straight – far side; remainder – kuside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for 51; low for 71 & 1m.

Right-hand course, seven testing leaves along back straight; run-in of 300yd. Separate Sun 3 Frace.

© Course is on A307, 4m S of Ringston, Eaber station (service from London, Waterloo)
adjoins course, Check brochure for all prices. ADMISSION: (Inb S15, Junior Club (17

- 21yrs) 513; Grandstand \$12; Park \$4. CAR PARK; \$2 in members (More Lanc), re-

nationier free.

LEADING TRAINERS WITH EUNNERS: R Hamon ~ 37 winners from 392 runners gives a success ratio of 12.7% and a loss to a 51 level stake of 542.41; J Gooden ~ 21 winners, co. 3 manufacture ~ 13 winners, 05 runners, 20.3%, +646.06; ners, 105 rumers, 20.7%, +50.58; J Panniasare - 13 winners, 05 rumers, 20.3%, +546.05; R Akelmust - 13 winners, 11.0 rumers, 11.5%, -534.50.
B IRADING JOCESTS: Pas Eddery - 56 wins, 253 rides, 22.1%, -58.47; L Deitori - 40 wins, 203 rides, 12.7%, -51.40; M Roberte - 20 wins, 174 rides, 14.6%, -528.78; T Quinn

- 26 wins, 197 rides, 13.2%, -\$47.11. BLINKERED FIRST TIMR: M T Vesset (2.00). WINNERS IN LAST SEVÊN DAYS: Nob LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Therbes (4.10) has been sent 158 miles by B Millman from

2.00 KPMG HANDICAP (CLASS E) £5,000 added 3YO 5f Penalty Value £3,550

Minimum weight 7st 10th. The hendicap weights Singbryoussupper, Durable George 7st 8b. BETSHR: 7-4 Safly Green, 7-2 Hopates, 11-2 Whitz Rid, 7-1 Respons Glory, 8-1 Singboryo 12-1 Royal Orable, Hype Energy, 16-1 others 1988: Can Chief 3 9 0 7 Quinn 2-1 for () Amold Jeann 22 10 ran

FORM GLIDE

FORM CUIDE

High numbers have a big advantage when there is cut in the ground and Singforyoursuspper returns to the scene of her angle success so far – a selling nursery last August on good
to soft going – on bottom weight. However, she has finished well besten in both her etarts
the season at Yarmouth and Southwell, and this looks booked for SALLY GRIEEN. Chris Wall's
charge looks a much better wager having run well in the last two of three outings this season and also being favourably drawn in stall mine. Sally Green, successful at Southwell last
season, finished unplaced at Wolverhampton on her return but took minor honours against
Straf's Quest at Windoor (good to soft) while she went under three parts of a length to Daynelts at the same tack last time. Frenice Detton is booked for the ride. Nopalica, who goes
from stall egit and has Piet Eddery's assitance, is a consistent type and git off the mark at
Warnets on her per-ultimate appearance but that was on a firm surface and she is unitied
on ground as soft as today's. Elements Glory's only wan to date, in a Windoor madeh a yeago, was on good to firm but she acts with give in the ground. Brian Mechan's runner, third
to Municipal Gut in a seller at Nottingham in April, finished unplaced in the tame grade there
next time and was bester well in Sicar May Sciar's race at Lingfeld. What Stall was not diecedated although only such tof eight to Supertao on the soft at Lingfeld set time but has credited abnough only such (of eight) to Superlao on the soft at Lingfield last time but has the worst of the draw in staff one.

PILLAR PROPERTY INVESTMENTS STAKES (CLASS C) £6,900 added 2YO 7f Penalty Value £4,312 1 61 MUHANIAR (21) (CD) Old Hamizon IN Holdburn J Gosden 9 1 P Hills 3
2 A4 CLASSI MANDENAR (SISA) (CS) Paid & Jorny Green R Hamin 8 11 Pai Eddery 1
3 0 STIMA'S YOURSE MAN (25) Pair G R Busenleid) M Haynes 8 11 M Heary (5) 4
4 CLESTIAL BAY (RE) (Bertam Ramp) A Foster B 3 B Doyle 2
4 declared
BETTING 4-5 Mandenthik, Evens Classic Management (25 Celestial Bay, 33-1 GHor's Young Man
1990: Groom's Gordon (Fri 2 9 0 Pai Eddary 5-2 U Duniopi casan (3) 6 ran

FORCE GUIDE.
Seven furlongs round here represents a real staming test for a juvenile and 4 proved night.

Seven furlarings round here represents a real stamma test for a juvenile and a providing in MURTIATHIR three weeks ago when he was always well to the fore and defeated Chaipsteel half a length, taking command fully three furlarings out. There should be better still to come from John Gosden's colt, who was predictely softh of 12) to the highly stild Cape Yeard on his introduction over an inadequate soft at Newmantel. Only three oppose the Selection and the pick, appears to be Classic Mathocularia. Richard Hannen's number, fourth of 18 behand Mathoon on his debut at Newholly test month, book the same placing behand Central Park in the Windsor Castle Staless over today's timp at Rigid Ascott, better at lengths. The American Colt should progress again. Colestial Bay is up against it, while Edica's Young Main came home lest of 24 to Lord Kintyre on his Windsor debut. Selections MURTATHER

3.10 E D & F MAN HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 1m 3f 91yds Penalty Value £3,548

2-0053 SOFPANI BISA) (L4) bit E Remit) Linky Herries 4 10 0 R Confirme 2 00002 HARRICE HARDER (BISA) CZT) (Dr G Magan Moham) R Averburs 6 9 12 3 Quiban 4 50054 ROYAL SERION (45) (Avanusse Carpuss Lamaco) May P Duffet 8 9 8 R Harber 53 9 000-3 TOPPADOM EQIST (RE) (25) Quit Macrine Suin R Armstong 5 9 4 R Harber 53 9 000-3 TOPPADOM EQIST (RE) (25) Quit Macrine Suin R Armstong 5 9 4 R Harber 53 000-3 TOPPADOM EQIST (RE) (25) Quit Macrine Suin R Armstong 5 9 4 R Harber 54 000-3 TOPPATRIESS (L4) Git Paddy Barreri) A Harris 4 9 2 Lossy 4 9 3 Mr Ryma 8 004-50 TEMPATRIESS (L4) Git Paddy Barreri) A Harris 4 9 2 Lossy 4 9 3 Mr Ryma 6 004-50 TEMPATRIESS (L4) Git Paddy Barreri) A Harris 4 9 2 Lossy 4 9 3 Lossy 5 000-50 TEMPATRIESS (L4) Git Paddy (22) Albas Was Albarreri B Armston 4 9 2 Lossy 6 000-50 TEMPATRIESS (L4) Quit Paddy P Carpus A Harris 4 0 0 Lossy 6 000-50 TEMPATRIESS (L4) Quit P Carpus A Harris 4 0 0 Lossy 6 000-50 TEMPATRIESS (L4) Quit P Carpus A Harris 4 0 0 Lossy 6 000-50 TEMPATRIESS (L4) Quit P Carpus A Harris 4 0 0 Lossy 6 000-50 TEMPATRIESS (L4) Quit P Carpus A Harris 4 0 0 Lossy 6 000-50 TEMPATRIESS (L4) Quit P Carpus A Harris 4 0 0 Lossy 6 000-50 TEMPATRIESS (L4) Quit P Carpus A Harris 4 0 0 Lossy 6 000-50 TEMPATRIESS (L4) Quit P Carpus A Harris 4 0 0 Lossy 6 000-50 TEMPATRIESS (L4) Quit P Carpus A Harris 4 0 0 Lossy 6 000-50 TEMPATRIESS (L4) Quit P Carpus A Harris 4 0 0 Lossy 6 000-50 TEMPATRIESS (L4) QUIT P CARPUS A UNITED A MARTIN A

Minimum neight; 7st 10th. True handlesp weights: Rock The Borney 7st 3th.

Minimum neight; 7st 10th. True handlesp weights: Rock The Borney 7st 3th.

BETTRIE: 3-1 Hundre Hander, 4-1 Sofyana, 9-2 Typhons Bight, 11-2 Temptress, 7-1 Denn
ment, 6-1 Premier Generation, Rock The Bismey, 10-1 others

1990; Etian Haghts 4 8 8 A Daiy (5) 16-1 (5 Doné desen 17) 10 ran

FORM GUIDE

SOFVAAN, en Insh import now with Lady Herries - he was sold out of Newa Prenderges's yeard for 33,000grs a year ago - ran by far his best race from four starts in Britain Last time when third behind Travelmake and My Learned Prierrig at Newmarker, bearen only a neck and half a length after fealing to obtain the clearest of rurs. The Silver Hawk four-year-old has gone up a couple of pounts for that and is on 10st, but can prove equal to the task. Mingle Combinantion, another hish accusation, finished three lengths admit of Sofyson at Newmarket and could be the danger with his 3th advantage. Both are likely to again take care of Resolutions, who had Sofyson a long way behind when tourts to Valenciary at Newmarket in May but was only eighth in Tavelmake's race there. Premier Generation had the third fire lengths away and Dramatic Manuact in 1120 of 38 when beaton a neck by Monday's Windsor winner Kinnescash at Lecester in April and got off the mark at Newbury (soft) next time. She was last of fire to Anak-Ru at Chepstow test time, however. Newfort harder, is now with Reg Aterburst and ran a fire first race for the Ecsom handler when a neck runner-up to Northern Motto at Donoster four weeks ago. Typhoos Elight was a 20-1 shot when third of 15 to the-length soorer Faits here in May on his first outing since last November and races off the same mark this time. Royal Scetton has not won since 1994 but is coming down in the weight and could prove troublesome.

Selection: SOFYAAN

3.40 WATES CENTENARY DRAGON STAKES (Listed) (CLASS A) £13,500 added 2YO 5f Penalty Value £9,428

FORM GUIDE

This into here were all in action at Royal Ascot, with DAURTHING LADY and Asrigny running that if the Quien Many and the Windsor Castle respectively and Bedyguard Snishing a two-length fourth to Toppet Boy in the Nortific despite fourth in Stooms and collising with the last approaching the fairting pole. Bodyguard was found to been suffering from a blood disorder when unampressively kinding odds of 7.2 at 10th and he had looked correcting special when being up on his Newtranteet debut. Even so, Chamming Lady can have his measure group the files' allowance. She won both her races before Royal Ascot – here and at Chosta.

4.10 CORPORATE SERVICES GROUP HANDICAP (CLASS D) 55,000 added 1m Penalty Value £3,615

= 8 declared = 0.1 ______ surpties, 2-1 Figure Da Cool, 4-1 Exha Au Rham, 5-1 Zidac, Renata's Prince, 12-1 Contache Companies, 15-1 Kalley Senor, 50-1 Consignards Hero

FORM GUIDE

Beaten a tength and three-quarters by Vira Verdi of Notungham in May on this reappoint ance. BABA AU PREMI can impliced at Warriers or week afterwards but he struck form with a decisive course-end-displance victory little weeks bock, and can supplement the gains off a 600 higher main, shough he has yet to prove he handles out in the ground. Therehad is the 10 fear having into in strongly when justings if arounds in a field of 18 at Notingham 16 days ago — is an aendwiched between seconds to California it Newtony and No Extras at Coolewood on Sunday. Zidae is not the most consistent of characters but one less than two lengths of the winner in finishing lifth of 13 to Zamalek at Impelied set time and Pot Edderly takes the mount. From De Cool's angle success so far was at Sulsibury a couple of years ago and he has had several chances since.

Selection: BABA AU RHUM

4.40 QUEEN SQUARE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 1m of Penalty Value £3,534

Out Production of the Estimate P Chapter Hum 38 11 R Hendin (3) 4

O0033 Patholic (21) file G Stemberg M Haynes 3 8 11 T Quies 5

4003 Noon, or Estimate (46) file R M Creek C Caye 3 8 6 L Debtor 2

D YELF CLICQUOT (14) (All Service Compens R American 3 8 5 R Peter 1

25 VRSHAUM (18) (Sr David Wiles) I Farestave 3 8 6 Peter 1

26 VRSHAUM (18) (Sr David Wiles) I Farestave 3 8 6 Peter 1

– 5 nociation – IE: 8-13 Book At Bedtine, 5-1 Vremies, 11-2 Final Stage, 7-1 Padruit, 16-1 Verve Cilicgust Centermet (ISA) 3-8-11 Pat Editory 8-11 To (A) Stoute (Court (2)-11 con FORM GUIDE

This looks at the therey of BOOK OF BEDTME, who can the Onlike third Crown Of Light to a longth on the soft in the Lingfield Calis Trial in May with the 15-8 on chance Ulvaine venture, a previous winner, seven lengths back in thad. The Doughter of Mitoto has been up against it in both outing since - finishing only eight (of 12) to Room Of Verso in the Outsetore training a fine race at Royal Acot, taking thad to Winnsor Castle in the Quoen's Vase, beaten linds more than two lengths. Book Of Beating was finishing strongly at the finish of the latter race, a two-miler, but dropping down in ostaince should not inconvenience Charles Oyas's charge on this stiff track. Virentists was beaten as lengths by Hentage on the into-custom at Haydock Lim 21 200/dal in May but was 13 lengths clear of the third. She was not discretized in finishing light of 18 to Mumans at Ropon (1m 41) 15 days ago and, with the further step up in trip likely to suit and Pat Eddery aboard, the clearger of Suarc Dancer can follow the favourite horne. Another who should be suited by this first another at this discarce is Padiated, who has theat the minor position in both his cases - against Gunerous Grit. with who has filled the minor position in both his races - against Gunerous Gr

Beverley were watching the clouds last night and were ready to make a precautionary inspection at 7.30 this morning for tonight's meeting.

60 BALFOUR LADY (11) Jiober 388.....

ICT (7) G L Moore 388...

BETTERS: 5-2 Floorishing Way, 3-1 Always On My Mind, 11-2 Catris, 13-2 Elza, 10-1 Awassi, 12-1 Bacchus, Harna, 16-1 others

4.55 WHITE HOUSE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,900 added 1m

00 MAGE LAHR (BER) (6) I Baking 497 ... Months Dwyer (3) 10

BEAUCATCHER M HERON-EIIs 3 8 8 60286 CATRIA (224) (SF) J Gosden 3 8 8

435-0 SAVONA (\$3) P Makin 3 8 8

WARWICK

GODAG: Soft

HYPERION 2.15 Tribal Moon 2.50 Katle Komalte 3.25 Figawin 3.55 Manifeno 4.25 Flourishing Way 4.55 Crown

STALLS: Inside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for 5f; low for 1m 2f 189yd & 1m 4f l 15yd. **II** Left-hand course. The 5f course has a dog-leg at half-way. Run-

■ LEP-mand course. The DI course has a congregat man-way, con-ing of 240 yeards.

■ Course is W of city on BAD85. Bases from stations at Warwick (1m) and Learnington Sps. (2m). ADMISSION: Club S12 (16 to S-year-olds SS): Indicasalis SS; Course S5. CAR PARES Free. BLANKERED FIRST TIME: Flourishing Way (4.25). WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN DATS: None. LONG-DUSTANCE EDINNERS: Spirits Of Sport (2.50) has been sent 168 miles by A Newcombe from Hunsham, Devon.

2.15 BIG APPLE MAIDEN HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,300 added 1m 2f 169yds

23,300 access Lin a. 100 Peo (7) 8
040-6 CHOCOLATE LEE (LISE) ROSAlem 4 9 8. Septimes 14
05-32 LITTLE MRSS ROCKER (LIS (BF) | Beiding 3 9 5
Mismits Duyer (9) 3
Vision (9) 4 00-5 MONUOOD (56) H Stade 3813.

5 (O-2) INCHESTOR (56) M SIDUES 3 8 13 J. J. Reld 4
9 : 4000-0 BODIAN HESTAR (55) R BROTHSTON 4 8 13 S. DICHMEN 19
10 04253 ISSH HONDA (7) C BROTHSTON 3 8 10 M. J O'COMMON 11
11 00003 HENER ROLF CHARLER (18) T. J Noughton 38 9. Symbol 16
12 050-0 COME TOGETHER (69) D Arbustrol 3 8 9 Symbol 17
13 00-0 STRAFFAN GOLD (21) 6 Wagg 3 8 6 J. J. Quinn 12

HYPERION

7.00 Berlin Blue 7.30 Jayannpee 8.00 Little indian 8.30 Jo Mell 9.00 Welsh Mill 9.30

GOING: Good to Soft. STALLS: 71 - imide; 1m &f - centre; 5f, &f & 1m 4f - centreide. DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for 5f to \$f; Low from 7130yd to

Im40yd.

Mainust list, ovai course; straight & course.

Course is near junction of A580 and M6. Newton station 2m.

ADMISSION: Councy Stand £17 (Ladies £8-50); Tattersalls £10;

Newton Stand \$5 (Judice & OAPs half-price in Tatlessalls and New-

ion Stand). CAR PARK: Free. RLINKERED PIEST TIME: Well Armed (7.00), Hey Up Mate

VINNERS EN LAST SEVEN DATS: Jo Meil (8:30) was at Newsasie on

WUNDERS IN LEAST, REPORT NATIONS OF THE CONTROL OF

7.00 FRANK WOOTTON HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 1m 8f

singindisguise

- 20 dectared -SETTING: 9-2 Monjood, 5-1 Swing West, Joks Houde, 13-2 Explain observes, 8-1 Little Miss Rocker, 10-1 Chocolarte Ice, Haver Golf Charmer, 14-1 observes 2.50 JOHN CATTELL'S FINAL FURLONG OF FREEDOM SELLING HANDICAP (CLASS G)

£2,875 added 1m __R Sb

D41D43 EDLD LANCE (96) (D) R 0'Subsen 499 ______. S See

- 6 declared -BETTING: 15-6 Lord Smith, 5-2 Michales, 7-2 Hardess, Figuria, 16-1 Potal-3.55 HELLAR INVEST IN SUCCESS HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 1m 6f 194yds 406320 TANNATER (13) S Dow 4 9 11 3 الله السيسيين .\$ Senders 1 ._.C Rutter 3

21511 LORD SMITH (B) (D) M Pige 97

... A Coditions & V BETTENE: EVERS Manitumo, 4-1 Tamatek, 13-2 Two Socios, Steav Dean, 8-1

SETTRIC: 9-2 Sandmoor Dealer, Sold Lance, 7-2 Queen Of Shannon, Ar-catora, Katle Komelin, 8-1 Charling Imp., Best Kept Secret, Managhetti, 12-1 others

3.25 PYMENTS CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300 added 2YO 7f

4.25 STARS AND STRIPES MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,900 added 6f

0.0 AWASS (11) K Marci 4 9 5 _______ D 0'Doustroe (3) 12 00-000 CALANDRELIA (5) G Batting 4 9 0 ______ P P Norphy (3) 5 00 SELEK SYMPHONY (150) No. 5 Williams 5 9 0 _____

MELTON ASBOT M Saunders 4 9 7 JF Egger 24
BALENENA (REL) J Plesscheen(Bel) 4 9 2 M Keogh 3M Keogh 3 O-O CHARCOL (65) I Banis 4 9 2 PRoberts 24 CLASSIC FORM (258) I Campbel 4 9 2 Proberts S Dro .____J Redd 8 43223 DAWAN ALLAN, (10) M James 3.8.12 ___S Sanders 18 O-6 DESERT WARREOR (11) K Manu 3 8 12_D O'Documo (3) 11 30-04 KAFE (25) W Hern 3 8 12_______ F Sprains 17 00-04 KAFIL (25) W Hem 3 8 12 4 MASSYAR SEVENTEEN (42) H Collegage 3 8 12 ... Miss & Wooden Q ROCKE THE JESTER (11) | Legt 3 8 12 C Teagre (3) 2 03 SPECULATOR (94) W Hages 3 8 12 ... Q CATHERSTON LUCKY (24) 6 Bailing 3 8 7 ... P P Murphy (3) 4 _N Variey – 1,6 dectared –

BETTENE 3-1 Crown Of Thorns, 5-1 Deward Alfall, 7-1 Knill, Spe B-1 Cold Lazares, Sahara River, 10-1 Depart Warrior, 14-1 others

9.00 BAILEYS IRISH CREAM CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS E) £4,100 added 1m 4f 3 LUDO (30) (8F) B Halls 86... 45-026 WELSH MILL (121) (C) (D) Mrs M Reveloy 8 10 0 ... K Durley SINGLE MAN F Lee 4 9 10.

MARGICE R Hollinshead 7 12 ...

7.30 ASPECTS BEAUTY STAKES (CLASS C) £7,650 added 6f

D-5200 CATHAN KALCLES & Harnon 4.9 1...Pat Eddery

BÉTURIS: 2-1, Za-ba, 11,4 Cayasa Rai, 11-2 Jayannpes, 8-1 Indian Sport, 7-1 Događa, Propis Ca, 18-1 Zabah 8.00 MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES SICK

00 GET OF GOLD (23) | Campbel 8 11 COLDEN STR 43 FUNDANCE (14) M Docts 88...

6.40 TILNEY LADY AMATEURS HCAP COLOR (CLASS F) £3,800 added 1m 3f

405 WELL ARRED (120) J.J. O'Nell 6.8.12 ________ J Carrell 2.8 010565 TURKENIEV (8) (22) (87) R Bastrian 8.5 7 ______ Pet. Eddlary 3 002635 DEBRONS BOY (9) S Dow 4.8.5 ________ J F Egen. 4 -63144 EXPRESS CHT (13) (03) (87) Mis M Revely 8.8.1 _______ COOL MYSTER! A Mundlend 83 ... - T declared SETTINGS 9-4 Berlin Blue, 5-2 Cloud Juspector, 5-1 Etyress Gift, 8-1 Turgenere, Obermas Boy, 7-1 Claudio Fluit, 25-1 Well Armed _Dale Gibson 7 ~ 10 DESERTED & 11 DESERTED & 11 DESERTED & 11 DESERTED & 12 DESERTED & 12 DESERTED & 13 DESERTED & 14 DESERTED & 15 DESERTED &

8.30 BIRCHLEY RATED HANDICAP (CLASS C) £12,250 added 7f 30yds

Q PERTING: 7-2 Q Pactor, 4-2 Jo Mell, 5-1 Generous Libra, 7-1 Albert Tea Bear, Band On Rue Rus, Wandsmar's Weigh, Place For Profit, 12-1 others

7.40 PRECON BLOCK STAKES (CLASS SKY)

- 6 declared -BETTRUE: 4-5 Welch Mill, 9-4 Stohanne, 9-2 Forzair, 16-1 Big Pat, 25-1 9.30 ELLESMERE HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,100 added 5f 221012 REFSENCENDISCRISE (7) (D) M W Exsenty 4 10 0 135-41 SUPERBIT (11) (C) (D) B McMahon 5 9 11 (7e) _1 Nowton 7 0-0006 CROSS THE BORDER (44) (D) O Nichols 4 9 1 ...Max Greaters 4

5000/0 BRG PAT (18) (0) 10 Shee 8 9 2...

06-204 SHABANAZ (25) (C) (D) W Mur 12 9 0...

To Talk, 7-1 Cross The Border, 10-1 Panther, John O'Dreams, 14-1 oth-

HYPERION 6.40 High Low 7.10 Scarabon 7.40 Power Game 8.10 Palacegate Touch 8.40 Oare Kite 9.10 Indigo Dawn

GOING: Good to soft (Soft in places). STALLS: lm, |mlf - inside; 5f & 8f - for orde: |mlf & lmbf -

LONG-DESTANCE BUNNERS: Stalled (5.40) and Oare Kize (8.40) LONG-DESTANCE FURDERS: Stalled (6.40) and Oare Kine (8.40) have been sent 371 miles by P. Waisyn from Lambourn, Berkshire; Kandrah (8.10) has been sent 371 miles by B. Cartis from Lambourn, Berkshire; Take A. Turn (8.40) tent 370 miles by M. Charmon from Upper Lambourn, Berkshire; White Plates (7.10) sent 368 miles by K. Burko from Chape. Order, Moonlight Invader (9.10) sent 360 miles by R. Duniop from Neumarket, Suifoli.

| (LLASS F) | Logicol Service (00002 | 1982 | LOW (002) M Hammond 9 10 5 ... Mins & J Ha - 10 declared BETTHG: 5-2 Sun Of Spring, 4-1 Mediann Welcome, 5-1 Noony Mathre, 7-1.
Love Me Do, 8-1 Lord Advocate, Philadet, 10-1 High Low, 12-1 others 7.10 FOUR SEASONS CLAIMING STAYES (CLASS D) £5,500

04-006 CLASSIC BALLET (FR) (16) (D) R Guest 4.9 1 ____ 6 Deffeld 2 -00325 LAPU-LAPU (28) (D) (RF) M Carrecto 4.9 1 ____ L Charmock 1 - 4 declared -RETTNG: 4-5 Power Game, 2-1 Lapu-Lapu, 7-1 Cinesic Bullet, 8-1 Chadleigh

WHITE PLANS, (20) (3) (3) KBurle 4912...C Louther (7) 4 14341 SCARABBN (8) (CD) 5 Nectored 9 9 7 J Stack 1 0-0064 LHDAS NAM (8) 0 Notes 6 9 1 P Breedey (7) 3 B - 8 declared -000000 RUTLE (14) D Nobel 49 1 K Steed (5) 2 RESONLETTA May 1 Person 3 8 0 K Research 5 Minkrum weight: 7st 10th. True randicab weight: Dier 6st 10th. BETTHIS: 9-4 Palacegate Touch, 5-2 Minter Westwoodd, 5-1 T Worm, 6-1 Louding Princess, Amother Mightpure, 7-1 Diet.

8.10 TOTE HANDICAP (CLASS D) SKY. -02504 THE LAMERON WORK (S) (D) D South 3 9 5 ___ 1 Cha 000411 MISTER WESTSOURD (13) (CD) MISS L Person 5 8 0 __ 200303 LEADING PRINCESS (3) (CD) (BF) Mas L Pensit 6 7 15

8.40 EBF MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (QUALIFIER) (CLASS E) £4,750 added 0535 BURNT YATES (S) M W Easterby 9 0 ... OO LENGTHE BELL (21) St M Present 89.... 3 MARIANA (36) A Wheeler 89..... dber (7) 2 9 OARE NITE P Watery 6 9 June 4 1 Love 4 - 9 decisared - 9 decisared - 1.4 Prix Star, 11-2 Miss Puci, 13-2 Barnt Yntes, 10-1 Take A Torn, Davo Kite, 12-1 Liberto Bell, 20-1 oth 9.10 RAGE OF BOTHWELL MAIDEN HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,500 added 1m 5f

HYPERION 6.50 May Beveled 7.20 Rex Mundi 7.50 Superpride

8.20 Princely Heir 8.50 First Village 9.20 Lindrick Lady GOING: Soft. STALLS: Insude.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for 51 & 7f 100yds.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for 5t & 7f 100rds.

Right-hand, galloping course with very stiff 5t.

Course is 1m W of town on A1035. But service from Beverley station (fidth - Scarborough fine) 2m. ADMISSION: (3mb 51%; Junior Club (16 to 2)-year-olds) 58; Thitersalls 58 (OAP 56); Silver Ring 53 (OAP 52); Course Esciosure 52; Piente area 53 or 52 per compant. CAR PARK: Pres.

BLINERED FIRST TIME: None.

WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN DAYS: Pride of Pandle (7.50) won at Durseley of Standar. caster on Sanday.

LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Carfoot Lane (8.50) has been sem,
256 miles by W Turner from Corton Denham, Somersel.

6.50 FERGUSON FAWSITT ARMS SELLING HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,300 added

BETTING 8-11 Scarabes, 6-5 White Plains, 16-2 Philosophita, 33-2 others -55200 SMASSPET (4) R Fathey 3 8 9 A College 14 0000003 JPLLY REVELLED (27) Ron Thompson 5 8 9 Persons (3) 7 - 15 deptimed
RETIRIS: 5-1 June Red, 6-1 Price Partner, 7-1 Sheataine, July Bevoled,
8-1 Bold Street, Rochen, Legand Of Aragon, Sentept, 12-1 others

7.50 WELLIAM JACKSON'S HANDICAP (CLASS D) £8,000 added 1m 100yds

-00001 PRIDE OF PENDLE (5) (CD) M Ware 6 10 2 (Ge

added 1m 1f 36yds

- 9 declared -BEITING: 7-2 Pride Of Pendle, 4-1 Bollin Frank, 5-1 Options, 11-2 Separatio, 7-1 Duke Valentine, 3-1 Ducile, Tratebod, 10-1 others 8.20 WELLBEING NOVICE STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2YO 5f 1 PRINCELY HER (27) (D) M Johnston 9 4 _______ J Wearer 4
4122 SANDSIDE (B) (D) (B) J Bony 9 4 ______ P Fessey (S) 3
15 BUISSING VICTORIA (66) (D) M Month 8 13 R Bristond (7) 2

0 CAPE HOPE (15) R Boss 8 12 R Fallen 5 2133 BRANSTON RESRY (28) (CD) (BF) 1 Syn 8 11 R Leppin 1 7.20 BOLLINGER SERIES AMATEUR HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,500 added 1m 4f - 5 decianed -TBRE 11-8 Princely Heb, 9-4 Sancisio, 4-1 Branciso Berry, 13-2 Blood-

8.50 JACKSONS FOODSTORE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,550 added 2YO 5f

3 PREST VILLAGE (32) (8F) J Borry S 9 Pressey (3) 32 WOYLAND COMMON N Timber B 9 June Timber 5 KETTLESING (80) M W Excerty B 9 June Timber 3 B LAPHIN Ms N Macasery B 9 S Webster 15 Q LINCKINGE SINL (14) J Bethell B 9 D Holland 13 3 OPGPARE (15) T Extently B 9 W. J O'Conner 1 - 15 tectored -	_		A Tizzy, 20-1 Haubach Boy	
HOYLAND COMMON N Tinker 8 9	_		PRST VILLAGE (31) (8F) / Borry 8 9	P Fossey (3) 12
5 KETTLESING (80) M M Esserb; 8 9		•		
LAPME Ms N Macadey 8 9		5		
O LINCHINAE SPA (14) J Berhaf 8 9		_	LAPINE Mrs N Macauley 89	
3 OPCPARE (15) T Easterby 89		n		
	سن	. Ополе	Hrst Villago, 5-1 Two Williams, 11-2 Q pd., 8-1 Requestor, 12-1 Nuclear Detailo,	Smart Prince, Tech-

9.20 SANCTON HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 3YO filles 1m 2f

21300 LINDRICK LADY (18) (C) B Rothert 9 7 ... 43-530 DANCING QUEEN (23) M Bell 9 2.... 6-6003 INCLINATION (12) M Biomerion: 9 0..... 000-2 DOUBLE GICHT (12) B HIS 9 0

– 9 decigred – Minimum weight 7st 10th. True transfers weights: Glonous dancer 6st 13th, Source Princets St 12b. BETTHER 3-1 Double Eight, 4-1 inclination, 5-2 Month Marietaki. Da Queen, Siver Of Fortrace, 6-1 Lachtman, 8-1 Lindrick Lady, 33-1 others

000-06 SHOTLEY PRINCESS (3) N Bycroft 7 10 _____P Feesey (3) 6

Ballesteros needs Cup 'miracle'

ANDY FARRELL reports from Druids Glen

Seve Ballesteros, never one to admit defeat lightly, seems to have finally bowed to the inevitable in order to give Europe the best chance of retaining the Ryder Cup at Valderrama in September. Ballesteros is virtually certain will be strictly a non-playing captain. At present, he is simply not a match for Europe's emerging talent, such as Lee Westwood and Thomas

have been one wild card short of a full team to pick himself and combine playing with the cares of captaincy. His predecessor, Bernard Gallacher, for one, thought it impossible. But by refusing to rule himself out until the team are finalised on 31 August, Ballesteros merely fuelled speculation.

In truth, the proud champion that he is, Ballesteros needed the stimulus of attempting to maintain a place as one of the top-12 European golfers to help reverse the worst form of his career. His decision may signal the fact that his playing will take a back seat for the moment.

Yesterday, in his first round since his back troubles forced him out of the Volvo PGA six weeks ago, Ballesteros shot a four-over 75 in the Irish Open, 10 shots behind the leader Westwood. The 24-year-old from Worksop established a the US Open with Westwood

new course record here to lead by one from another young player who could confirm his Ryder Cup place this week, Denmark's Biorn.

Steven Richardson, who made his first cut this year at the 16th attempt last week at the French Open, was among those on four under and the defending champion, Colin Montgomerie, was happy with his 68

The way I am playing, it would not be fair to pick myself unless things change dramatically," Ballesteros said. "It seems to me not possible to play The Spaniard would have to and be the captain, and to do a good job. Unless there is a

miracle, I will not be playing.
"I didn't think there would be so much talk about the Ryder Cup when I took the job. It has been difficult because I have been struggling with my game. There are always questions about my back and my swing. It is nice people care to ask, but I don't want to talk about my back any more. Today my 75 was the best score I could have done. I've just got no rhythm. It's difficult to come back and play well, especially when you have no confidence

It was indeed full of much Ballesteros brilliance around the greens, but his long game left little to talk about.

Instead, there were further compliments for Westwood. Nick Faldo, who made a solid, if unspectacular, start with a 69, played a practice round prior to



and found himself 30 yards be- season, having lost to Jose Maria hind off the tee.

"Lee is maturing all the time.
Once he learns to win a bit more he's going to be a dominant force in European golf," Faldo said. Learning from defeat was the key, Faldo said, although West-

wood has nothing much to for-

Olazabal in the Canaries, Bernhard Langer at The Oxfordshire and Montgomerie at Slaley His start yesterday was

breathtaking: a seven-iron to 12 feet at the 10th, a four-iron to four feet for an eagle at the 11th, give himself in his near misses this an eight-iron to 15 feet at the

12th and a wedge to two feet at the 14th. "It was a great start, difficult to make a mess of it when you are five under after five holes," he said.

five IOIES, IIC SALU.
HISH OPEN (Druids Gien, Co Wicklow) Early
leading first-round scores (CB or inf unless staledit 65 L Westwood; 66 T Blom (Den), N Fotol,
67 S Richardon, R Mc-Salne, 88 R Alerby (Mus.)
C Montgamerie, D Gätord, 69 C Rooca (I), M J

Regan's delight at final Test call-up

Rugby Union

CHRIS HEWETT reports from Johannesburg

> Mark Regan went drinking in the Last Chance Saloon in Welkom on Tuesday,

not knowing whether he would discover the elixir of life or end up drowning his sorrows. Happily for England's ebullient hooker, he emerged invigorated with a priceless vote of confidence from Fran Cotton and his Lions selectors:

Regan's outstanding performance in the final midweek match against-Northern Free State won him a place in the side for tomorrow's third and last Test with South Africa here. He comes into the front row for the injured Keith Wood and while the decision was a tight one -Barry Williams, the Richmond-bound Weishman, had been the replacement booker in both the Cape Town and Durban matches - the management opted for the man on the hotter streak.

"We were delighted with Mark's all-round play on Tuesday and we've always said we very talented footballer who

lection in the next game," said Ian McGeechan, the Lions' coach, by way of explaining the apparent about-face. Regan put it more personally. "Tuesday was all about pride and selfrespect," he said. "I can't say how delighted I am."

Two other players, Mike Catt and Tony Underwood, will win first Lions caps at outside-half and left wing respectively, while Neil Back, the Leicester openside flanker who played as a replacement in Durban last weekend, makes his first Test start ahead of Richard Hill. The South African-born Catt gets his chance because Gregor Townsend has pulled a thigh muscle, while Underwood replaces Alan Tait, who picked up

second Test. Catt will renew an old acquaintance at Ellis Park in the shape of Jannie de Beer, the Free State stand-off and a fellow debutant at this level. The two played against each other during their schooldays in Port

a groin strain during the epic

would pick players whose form kicks superbly," Catt said. There are new players in both There are new players in both sides and they il be keen to make things happen, so I think both of us will be looking to cre-

ate as open a game as possible. "This is another of life's opportunities; since moving to England it has been one of my goals to beat South Africa in South Africa. Tve never had the chance before."

Tim Stimpson, the Lious' leading point-scorer with 111, wins a place on the Test bench for the first time, as do Allan Bateman and David Young, the two Welshmen, and it may well be part of the strategy to use three or more substitutes in the course of what promises to be another extreme encounter.

and, capti, J Davidsa nd), L Dadlagilo (Wa Stimpson (Newcastle and Engand), Richmond and Wale (Leicester and England), B William

Backley's Bislett duel

Elizabeth. "Jannie was and is a

Athletics

MIKE ROWBOTTOM

Steve Backley will discover in Oslo tonight how realistic are his chances of turning the silver he earned at last summer's Olympics into gold at this year's

Backley throwing the javelin onsistently well after a troublefree winter of training, faces the world and Olympic champion Jan Zelezny in the Bislett Games, an event with a history of fine javelin performances, and a place where Zelezny has set a world record.

The Briton was due to meet Zelezny at last weekend's British Grand Prix in Sheffield, but the Czech thrower, who has been troubled with injury this season, withdrew.

A throw of 86 metres was sufficient for Backley to add a victory in Sheffield to the one he had achieved with a similar distance the previous week at

He knows he is going well, but Mark Crear.
Zelezny has a 94.02m throw to Sally Gun his credit this year.

You can never write Zelezny off," Backley said. "Every time you do he comes out with all guns ablaze and everyone suffers."
With the World Champi-

onships in Athens three weeks away, Backley sees Oslo as an opportunity to gauge how everyone stands in the javelin world. "I've still got plenty of time to step up my drill move-ments," he said. "But it would be nice to get one over on Jan." Linford Christie will also be

seeking to get one over on his friend and training partner Frankie Fredericks, who left him trailing in Lausanne on Wednesday night as the Namibian finished second to the US champion, Maurice Greene. Christie's business partner, Colin Jackson, also has a point to prove in the 110m hurdles against two of the Americans

who finished ahead of him in

Sally Gunnell, well beaten

over the 400m hurdles at Sheffield, returns to top flight action against the Olympic champion, Deon Hemmings, and the world record holder, Kim Batten.

While Oslo has hosted top quality spear-throwing, the outstanding performances have occurred in middle-distance running, particularly in the 10,000m. Haile Gebrsclassie will tonight attempt to regain the world record he lost to Salah Hissou last year. The Moroccan's world record of 23min 38.08sec eclipsed the 26:43.53 Gebrselassic achieved

in 1995. Both the previous world marks were set within the sheltered but vibrant confines of the Bislett Stadium, with Kenya's Yobes Omdieki breaking the 27minute barrier in 1993 and his fellow countryman William Sigei improving the mark to

Leeds put unhappy Holroyd on the transfer list

Rugby League DAVE HADFIELD

Leeds have put their goal-kicking half-back Graham Holroyd on the transfer list for £195,000 after he asked for a move. The 21-year-old kicked the winning penalty against Halifax on Wdenesday, but has been unhappy at being used largely as a sub-

stitute since the arrival of the club record signing, lestyn Har-ris. Holroyd has already been linked with Sheffield Eagles and Richmond rugby union club, but both will find the

price prohibitive. Leeds prop Barrie McDermott will be out for six months after breaking his leg and fracturing an ankle in last night's victory over Castleford at Headingley. McDermott has had a pin inserted in his ankle and a plate put into his leg, and misses the Test series against

Wigan and the London Broncos are playing for second place in the Stones Super League Championship when they meet at The Stoop tonight. Both are 10 points behind the Bradford Bulls with a match in hand.

English faces in the London line-up, with Shaun Edwards and Martin Offiah facing their Although the London coach,

Tony Currie, is keeping quiet about some positional switches he has in mind, he will have his captain, Terry Matterson, available. Matterson has withdrawn from the Scotland squad calf injury, but will be patched up to face Wigan, who have Paul Koloi on the wing in place of the injured Andy John Duffy, the 17-year-old Warrington scrum-half who has just recovered from a broken

leg, has been added to the

Scottish squad.

to play France in Glasgow next

week because of a nagging



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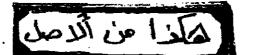
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In the boxing world today, anything goes if it drums up a profit

An understandable reaction to Mike released from prison exceed \$140m in ignorance of widespread revul-Tyson's outrageous behaviour is (£86m) - may not be over. that it justifies the contempt many people have for professional boxing

Tragedy has imposed itself too often on boxing for last Saturday's squalid events at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas to be seen as terminally self-destructive. But even some of us who continue to find the rough old game in its purest form thrilling have to accept doubts about its long-term

Boxing has never subscribed to the rules of polite society and, as Nson's image as a violent living-onthe-edge predator has always been a big part of his appeal, the career of boxing's cash machine -Tyson's purses for six contests since being

Although executives of the cable television network, Showtime, that has provided much of Tyson's wealth were unquestionably appalled by his despicable conduct they are sensitive to the possibility of a move by their chief rivals, Home Box Office.

I am reliably informed that HBO want nothing to do with the former undisputed champion, and in any case responsibility for ensuring that Tyson is suitably punished rests with the Nevada Athletic Commission. Empowered by state law to fine Tyson 10 per cent of his \$30m purse they are obliged to impose at least is that television's pernicious influan 18-month suspension. Anything ence has served to place boxing only less would be an insult to society and a short step ahead of professional

In the four days since Tyson was disqualified for biting Evander Holyfield's ears I have spoken to many people who watched the incidents on television or read about them in newspapers. All were disgusted, none convinced by the apology Tyson issued on Monday.

They included a small group of boys at baseball batting practice in Albany. Asked if they thought that Tyson's remorse is genuine, one, a rough looking item, said, "Naw, he's just trying to get off those charges." A problem for the traditionalists



KEN JONES

wrestling. Promoters argue that they must conform to modern neefcrences in style and presentation but this ignores the importance of boxing's traditional dignity.

Last week, for example, before

Holyfield and Tyson took turns to

speak at a press conference, we were subjected to a horrible slanging match between two women who appeared on the undercard. Apart from a personal objection to women in the ring this was typical of values that now prevail in boxing. Anything

goes if it drums up a profit.
It was suggested this week that a sure-fire seller would be Tyson against the ancient George Foreman. "Bring that one in and you'd be sure of a pay-per-view record," somebody said. This says a great deal about human nature.

As for Tyson, he can no longer be regarded as one of the great heavyeights. Even before incarceration took away his once remarkable leg speed and manocuvrability there was

not enough to suggest that he would have been even money with such no-tables as Muhammad Ali, Joe Frazier, Larry Holmes, Foreman and Sonny Liston. And there is no longer any doubt that much of his success sprang from intimidation.
It was significant last week that

Tyson never once tried to catch Holyfield's attention during the preliminaries. Holyfield, meanwhile, was a picture of screnity, confident that he had Tyson's measure.

Not much credence can be given to the theory that Tyson took the coward's way out by getting himself dis-qualified. Paradoxically, the self-styled "baddest man on the planet" proved again that he cannot handle a rough contest and lost all

control when a head butt split his right eyelid.

Significantly, you may think, US television executives do not think this scandalous affair will have an adverse effect on hoxing's hard-core popularity. Rob Correa, vice-president of programming for CBS sports, said:
"I don't think it's a bonus or a distraction. I just think it's another wacky day in the world of boxing. A lot of people tuned in to see Tyson out of curiosity, but I don't think that's going to evolve into more or less viewers in the future. This sport is always

on the verge of something chaotic." Sport? As the referee, Mills Lane. said after last week's contest: a business that just happens to find its

Jansen takes on Celtic challenge

Cann, and their general man-

ager, Jock Brown, when his

appointment was announced

yesterday, has been out of foot-ball for six months after being

in charge of the Japanese

League side. San Frecce. He

made his name as a coach at the

Rotterdam club, Feyenoord.

he faces a big challenge, but it is one he relishes. "Celtic has al-

ways had a special place in my memories," he said. They were

involved in the greatest day of

my career - the 1970 European

Cup final against Feyenoord -

The Football League could

follow their Continental coun-

terparts if the introduction of a

long-term loan system is given

the go-ahead later this mouth.

Lightbourne opts

for Coventry move

Coventry City have beaten serves first, then he might as well

rejoin Aberdeen for £650,000.
Steve Sedgley, Ipswich's former Tottenham utility player, is on-loan for up to a season and

set to join Wolves after talks a similar suggestion recently re-with Mark McGhee yesterday.

Jansen acknowledged that

MARK BURTON

Wim Jansen was revealed yesterday as the man who has taken on the poisoned chalice of the Scottish game, taking over as Celtic's head coach on a

three-year contract.
At least he will start the daunting task of producing a side to challenge Rangers' dommance in familiar surroundings. He will link up with his new charges today, one day into their three-match tour of his native Netherlands.

The appointment of 53-yearold Jansen brings to an end Celtic's search for a new figure-

Sheffield Wednesday to the sig-

nature of Kyle Lightbourne,

Walsall's Bermudan interna-

tional striker, with the fee likely to be decided by a tribunal.

Eoin Jess has left Coventry to

Paul Bracewell, the Sunder-

land and former England midfielder, has followed Peter

Beardsley in turning down the

chance to succeed Lou Macari

as manager of Stoke, who hope

to sign Port Vale's Tony Naylor

as a replacement for Mike

Sheron, who has moved to

Dario Gradi, the Crewe man-

ager, has agreed a £2m fee

with Tottenham and Liverpool

for Danny Murphy, the England Under-20 midfielder. "There's

no pressure on him to go," Gra-

Queen's Park Rangers.

head after the dismissal of manand I want to bring Celtic back ager Tommy Burns 10 weeks ago. to the highest level. I am de-Jansen, flanked by Celtic's lighted to be joining such a famous club. managing director, Fergus Mc-

Jansen won 65 caps and played alongside the Dutch legend, Johan Crnyff.

Sheffield United, frustrated in their pursuit of Bruce Rioch by Queen's Park Rangers' refusal to allow them to talk to Royle for secret talks yesterday about becoming their new manager and completing a swap with Howard Kendall. The former Everton manager impressed United officials at an interview and maybe given the post in the next 48 hours.

Royle would link up again with his old Everton No 2 Willie Donachie if he asked to replace

Chris Waddle is in talks with Burnley about becoming their new player-manager. The former England winger and his agent met the Second Division club last night and he could pip Wrexham's Brian Flynn for the job.

Fabrizio Ravanelli is facing disciplinary action from Middlesbrough after failing to re-port back for training at the Riverside Stadium vesterday. The Italian striker, who is exnext season kicks off, has al ready said he will not play for Boro following their relega-tion from the Premiership.

the Football League's Chair-His escape route could take him to Goodison Park. Everton's mans' Conference in mid-June. Existing arrangements, which new manager, Howard Kendall, has told Bryan Robson to take will remain unaltered, allow five players to be signed in any one season and no more than his pick of players in exchange two at any one time. However, for Fabrizio Ravanelli. Kendall is willing to give Middlesbrough the system could be supplemented by the introduction of one, or even two, of his squad for the Italian striker. new rules which would allow Sasa Curcic, the Aston Villa clubs the opportunity to take on

midfielder, was another foreign two additional players on a long-term basis. Chester's manager, the forimport to fail to report back for pre-season training. The Yu-goslav international will face the mer Welsh international Kevin Ratcliffe, has hung up his boots wrath of his manager, Brian Little, after being stranded in Spain di said, "but if they want him to after a career spanning almost spend a season in their re- 20 years. with an expired visa.



pected to leave Teesside before | University College Dublin (left) and Nottingham University avoid a ducking in the Temple Cup yesterday

Searle sets up stern test of his sculling

Rowing

HUGH MATHESON reports from Henley

Henley Royal Regatta came to muscular life yesterday in the Diamond Sculls when two of the best-developed converts to the single life. Jamie Koven of the United States, and Greg Searle of Molesey and Great Britain. 14st 7lb and 15st respectively, cruised through the second

Today Searle will race Adri Middag, the Dutchman who looked smooth and accomplished yesterday and could prove a stumbling block in what Searle described as "a winnable

In the other half of the draw. Peter Haining defied his early season form to scull through Nick Macdonald Crowley, the first "selected" sculler to be put out. Haining happy with his returning strength, embraced the loser on the finish line and

said: "Everyday it's a little better."

The women's sculling event, now known as the Princess Roval Challenge Cup, opened with wins for the two Olympians, Britain's Guin Batten and Maria Brandin from Sweden, who set the record here in 1995.

In the Princess Elizabeth Cup for schools when Westminster, winners of the secondrank event at the National Schools Regatta beat Radley, who won the top title their.

Westminster stole a quarter length off the start and had pulled out to half a length before Radley hauled them back to level at the Mile Post, but Westminster dug deeper to win by two-thirds of a length. St Pauls will be happy to have gone

Abingdon by two lengths. Rudergesellschaft Wiking. the Berlin lightweights entered in the Thames Cup for club eights, were ruled out after the Regatta's authorities were told

six seconds faster beating

they had rowed with three overqualified oarsmen. The Thames Cup excludes any

who have raced in a World Championships or Olympics within the past four years. "By the time they got to me that had read the rules carefully, and were obviously dismayed," the Regatta chairman, Mike Sweeney, said.

Tideway Scullers School, coached by Richard Tinkler, "rowed over" to gain a third round race with Castle Semple, of Scotland.

Dismasted **Briton in** amazing race

In a remarkable piece of inge-nuity and sheer determination, British shorthanded sailor Mark Turner, with crew Fred Leclere. yesterday completed the Mini Fastnet 11th out of 29 starters despite being partially dismasted in high winds north of the Scillics on Tuesday, writes Stuart Alexander. This means that he and his

6.5-metre Finot-designed Carphone Warehouse have quali-fied for the singlehanded Mini Transat which starts on 28 September in Brest. Turner even hopes to do a singlehanded race across the Bay of Biscay later this month. Turner brought his yacht into

the finish at Le Trebeurden, near Roscoff, Brittany, at lunchtime yesterday having rigged a reduced mainsail and jib to take advantage of surfing conditions all the way home. He also had to repair a serious leak in the stern after the backstay. had been ripped out.

Pressure on **Estoril** to improve track

The Portuguese government, racing against time to regain a Formula One grand prix at Estoril this year, is pondering drastic action to meet the deadline for the track improvements there that have been demanded by the sport's ruling body.

The FIA gave a 31 August deadline for the completion of improvements at the country's only Formula One circuit, but negotiations between the government and the circuit's owners are deadlocked. Officials are considering requisitioning the venue so that work can be started, according to the daily newspaper Publico. The government may also choose to expropriate the circuit or build a new one, the report said.

Rubens Barrichello escaped unhurt from a 175mph crash during testing at Silverstone vesterday. Mike Hakkinen recorded the fastest time in a session which also saw Damon Hill crash into the pit wall.

ESELS-CENTRAM

BRITSH_EMBLE CAMBE: Cincinned 7 Milwaukse
47 Detroit 9 New York Mets 7; Atlantia 2 New York
Yorkeas 0; Chucago Cubo 3 Konses City 2; Bajtimore 10 Philadelpine 6; Deldand 8 San
Chicago 1; Florida 3 Sustan 2; Philadelpin 3
Chicago White Sox 1; Texas 9 Colorado 1; Toron-

SPORTING DIGEST to 7 Montreal 6 (1.3 Innings); Houston 6 Cleve-land 2; St Louis 2 Montesota 1 (1.0 Innings); Los Angeles 5 Angheim 4; San Diego 8 Seattle 5.

> Clay pigeon shooting Two former world sporting champions set the pace on the second day of qualifying for the Embassy English Open Championship at Grimsthope Shooting Ground in Lincolnshire yesterday. Warwickshire's Carl Blownern posted a score of 96 and 30 Marsh, the former womens' world champions should be read to the control of the strain of of the strai

EXHIBITION MATCH (Hong Kong): Assan All-Star XI 3 File World XI 5.

Motor racing Stefan Johannson and Pierluig Martini, the former grand pro drivers, are to drive the twice Le Mans-winning Joest

Porsche in the opening race of the new international Sports Racing Series at Donington Park this Sunday. Williams team engineers testified in imple, italy, on Wednesday that steering column before was not to blame for Ary-ton Senna's fatel crash during the 1994 Sen Marino Grand Prix. Prosecutor Maurizo Passanni, who is trying six Formula One officials for manslaughter, contends that a failure in the modified steering col-

Olympic Games Hong Yong's continued participation in the Olympic Games, under their own flag, was assured yesterday by Juan Anto-nio Samaranch, president of the In-ternational Olympic Committee.

Rugby Union Maesteg have lost Noel Thomas, their promising 22-year old forward, to Ebbw Vale but have immediately snapped up the highly rated fondu No 8, Colin Malone, as replacement.

The Shift of Portsmouth attempt to cross the Atlantic in a 24ft semi-rigid inflarable powerboat was back on schedule as skipper Alan Priddy and his three crew left Arauk Fjord, Greenland on the 800-mile leg to fceland.

TODAY'S NUMBER

275

The number of spectators at Wednesday's championship game between Botatogo and Fluminense in Brazil. The game, which had expected a crowd of 80,000, had been postponed in May, and the new date only arranged on Monday.

Specitivey
WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULTS: Premier
Langher Long Euron 52 Georgew 37. Floor Toland
Championschip (Hell): Hall 39 Stoke 25 Siegrees 22 Sheffedd 10. Star Cap Sear-Healt Poole
S3 Coventry 31 (Poole with 95-55 on algoridate).

Peter Marshell, Nottingham's former world No 2, has taken his first PSA World Cup Tour title following a two-year layoff by defeating Mark Worstei, of Germeny, 15-5, 15-6, 15-9, in the final of the Rottal Open Championship in Paddisham Garmanu. Of the RODIAL Open Champhonship in Plankinchen, Germany.

ROTIAL OPEN FOURNAMENT (Physichen, Germany) Semi-final: Pilenshib (Eng) ti. SWa-urbal (Ger) 15-4 15-6 15-6; M Vocetin Red to M John Ger! 9-15 15-17 15-12 15-11 15-11 Plank Mayrand of Vocenu 15-5 15-6 15-9.

FIXTURES

Speciaray

ELITE LEAGUE, Belle Vue v Eastbourne;
Peterborough v King's Lynn.

PREMER LEAGUE NOOK OUT OUR semi-finel, first lege Edinburgh v Reading. PREMIER LEAGUE: Arene Essex v Sheffield, (8.0); Odojd v Long Eston (7.45).
AMATSUR LEAGUE: Bothe Vue v Lathelian, (9.0); Newport & Essex v Buston (7.0); Oxford v Long Eston & Wolverhampton (7.0).

Rugby League STONES SUPER LEAGUE: London v Wigan (7.30), First Division: Devisiony v Keighley (7.45).

Rugby Union

Other sports BOWLS: Nen's Home International & British Champlorships (Worthing): Scottsh Women's National Championships (Ayr). ROWING: Henley Royal Regatta (Henley). TENNIS: All England Championships

HENLEY RESULTS

TEMBLE CUP Second round: Queen's University Beldest by University of East Anglia 11/2 lengths, 7min Odsec University of History of 11/2 in 8:59; Hensert University of Bristol by 11/2 in 8:59; Hensert University of University College Lundon Robit Abortingham B easily in 7:02; London Robit Garda Sucharas BC 11/2 in 6:45; Imperial College Charles BC 11/2 in 6:50; Imperial College Charles BC 11/2 in 7:50; Imperial College C

7:17: Carriard School bt Hampton School A
14: n 7:12:
VISITURES CUP First round: Oxford Brookes
University bit lost by 2 in 7:13; Imperial College and Chering Cross Westmanster Medical
School bt University of London A by 15: n 7:19;
Neversite University to Exister University by
17:0; University of Natal bt Bedford School B
27: n 7:31; Bedford School A bt Tranty College Dublin 15: n 7:24; University of London
B bt Monmouth School easily in 7:38.
SELVER EMBLET MOCKELLS CUP First B bt Monmouth School easily in 7:38.

SRIVER GOBLET NECRALLS CUP First rounds IA Hartis IM Haisman to S R Moms C M Cusack by 3½ in 8:40; AR Tucker WH Castle bt HS Lleweigh-Likher TP Teny by 3½ in 8:32; ID Hapworth IP Purnell bt SI Good Hum ME Thompson by 3 in 8:09; C P Fischer & S Franke bt G T Smith & P D Thomps 1½ in 7:55; P A J Bridge & M H W Parish bt S M Tengrey & I C Calle ½ in 8:14; R Thesch-

1% in 6:34.
BRITUNINA CUP Second round: Les RC bt impenal Collège London B by 1% in 7:30; St Andrew BC bt Thomas RC B by 1% in 7:34; Trinly College Dublin bt Staines BC 3); in 8:03; Rudergesellschaft Honsa Hamburg bt Cambridge 99 3 in 7:43; Tunnershy of Mannesota A bt Wageningsche Studertten Ango 1% in 7:35; In 7:35; Thomas RC 3; in 7:35; Honley RC bt Vesta RC 3 in 7:54.

Pethersis Brosal CIP First meant RE Rud-

Vosta RC 3 in 7:54.

PRINCESS ROBAL CLIP First round: RE Rud-lon bt RP Ingledow by Turn 10:18; L M Harson bt E L Richards 3 in 10:00; S A Warchiess bt A L V Van Leemputten easily in 9:11; B E Roye bt M E Stevers 29, in 10:12; G Bat-

mod. Fr

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Martina Hingis shows the full face of the racket on the way to her victory in straight sets over Anna Kournikova yesterday

Hingis pulls rank on Kournikova

GUY HODGSON

annot guarantee where it is going to happen. Britain waited for the momentous to unfold on No 1 Court yesterday, only for Centre Court to provide. It was like setting up your deckehair on the wrong Spanish beach and missing the Battle of Trafalgar.

All England expected; 16year-old Martina Hingis did her duty, becoming the youngest Wimbledon finalist this century. If she wins tomorrow only Lottie Dod, at 15 years 285 days in 1887, will have been a younger champion. The downside of Henmania has meant she is not

not as easy as the scoreline sug-The problem with gests. The Russian possibly de-shistory is that you served a set, but Hingis is not in the habit of letting those slip, as six unblemished matches at Wimbledon testifies, "No one is going to ask what the score was," the No 1 seed said. "It's

> "It wasn't one of my best performances, but she really went for her shots. I was like. 'Oh God, another winner'." More importantly, the flat trajectory of Kournikova's fierce shots left little margin of error and it was a line she frequently crossed.

Nevertheless, Kournikova, also 16, has improved so much during the Championships that it has not required a fanciful imagination to foresee her ri-

valry with Hingis developing va 6-3, 6-2 in 1hr 2min that was into the clash of the titans that was Navratilova versus Evert. Martina woo that series and another Martina yesterday went 2-0 up in the current one.

> saga rather than a definitive statement. "When we posed for the photographers after the toss I said This is not the first time and I'm sure there are going to be many more times'. Everyone is making a big rivalry of it. Until now I've beaten her at the great tournaments so she still has something to improve, but she's getting better and better."

Hingis, for one, saw the lat-

est victory as an instalment in a

The Russian girl is so new to this game that her career earnings are \$205,659 (£127,000),

It was billed as the

meeting of the triple

champions and po-

tentially the match of Wimbledon 1997.

Instead it proved to be Boris

Becker's valediction, Pete Sam-

pras reached his fifth semi-final

in six years; the German an-

and 1989 and four-times runner-

up revealed he would not be re-

turning. "That's it for me," he

Wimbledon. I feel it's a good

This is my last time at

The champion of 1985, 1986

nounced his retirement.

moment to go."

GUY HODGSON

where Hingis, just nine months older, has accumulated more than \$3m (£1.8m). Experience was bound to count sometime against her at Wimbledon, her second Grand Slam tournament, and that time was vesterday.

"I'm sure I'll learn something from this match," Kournikova said before looking at the positive. "I've had a great tournament, I'm really happy the way I played. It's unbelievable I got to the semi-finals. I was dreaming about this." When she wakes up to real-

ity it is safe to say an urgent drill on the training schedule at Nick Bollettien's camp in Florida will be getting a serve to land in the box in such a way it does which would keep most teenagers not crave to be walloped. Hingis in Spice Girls paraphernalia but hardly threatened Goran Ivani-

a true representation of the way

the match went it would be best

to ignore the second set. Beck-

er pickpocketed that as surely

as if he had slipped his hand into

By the end he looked thor-

oughly demoralised, shricking

at his errors, hangdog in his de-

meanour. He was reminiscent

of Jimmy Connors facing John

McEnroe in the 1984 final in

that everything he tried simply

could not cope with the wizardry

heading his way. Sampras, yes-

The tone was set from the be-

ginning. Becker, once known as

"Boom-Boom" because of his

service, was broken in the first

game and lost the set in 25 min-

terday, was incandescent.

his opponent's tennis bag.

Broken Becker bids farewell

match either but at least her opponent had to think a bit. The only problem when facing Kournikova yesterday was whether to go for the winner on the backhand or the forehand

The first six games went to the receiver so that when Hingis actually clung on to her serve you felt a turning point had arrived. So, clearly, did Kournikova who suddenly began to grimace with an injury to her left hip.

What was really hurting her, however, was the innocuous nature of her opening shot. Kournikova has a wonderfully free forehand, about as exuberant a shot as you will see in tennis, but it amounts to little if she is chasing the point rather than dominating it.

clung on, barely threatening

Sampras but somehow resisting

the waves of power and inven-

tion coming over from the oth-

er side of the net. Sampras

would surely take the tic-break:

don's champion for three suc-

cessive years from 1993 to 1995,

crack at this injustice? There

was more chance of the All Eng-

land Club painting advertising

set at a gallop and then broke

Becker early in the third, win-

ning in 2hr 2min. When Sam-

pras serves, volleys and passes

The American took the third

Would Sampras, Wimble-

incredibly he lost it 7-5.

logos on their lawns.

from side to side, wearing her down with accuracy as much as power, so that if there are complaints about a trench at either end of the court you know who to blame. Kournikova returns like a boomerang she cannot retrieve indefinitely.

Kournikouva did not win a serve until she was 3-1 down in the second set, by which time Hingis had her gaze fixed on the finishing line. The last three games were over in a flash.

For Hingis the chance is there to erase the memory of her losing the French Open final to Iva Majoli last month, her only defeat this year in 43 matches. "In Paris I was already tired when I stepped on to the court. I wasn't in great shape. This time I'm really looking forward to it."

bridge may find out today.

er stopping to chat to the irre-

sistible force. He might have

said "Good luck", but it would

have been superfluous. Sampras

is the only seed left in the

men's singles and, in all prob-

ability, the only one with any

hope of winning the champi-

onship on Sunday. Becker, fast closing on his

30th birthday, walked with Sam-pras to the locker-room and

then allowed the American to

go ahead, pausing to make an exaggerated gesture of thanks

to the Centre Court crowd. It

Court circular

Kournikova first of a long line

units Kourinkows s 6-3, 6-2 since the age of six. Of its 18 centification detect resterday by mostly day courts only one is infinite times that future discours but, according to staff, kova is set not only on a path coming on behind her. Down by the rubbish dump

Sokolniki park may seem an un tournaments, and another Spar-likely musery for the world's tak-coach, Rosa Mukhamedmost glamorous teenage tennis prodigy; but at the Spartak lot more Kournikovas in future.

Olympic Sports School they We've dozens of very strong undain the hard-hitting 16 year der 12s and under 14s. You're old for their own and are age going to see a lot more Russians grieved at media reports that she in international tournaments." owes her success to coaching at Florida over the last five yearslozens more Russian youngsters where she came from. Kournikova has attended the Spartak school, one of the former Soviet Union's full-time hot-

pel the conviction that Kour- Kourtukova still trains there regularly. "All the credit's going of personal glory but to blaze a to Bollettieri, director Naialya trail for a generation of Russians Kochetkova said. "But she spends most of her time here. Down by the rubbish dump Spartak's Larisa Precand old storehouses round the brazhenskaya is still Kournikoback of Moscow's sprawling va's coach travelling with her to zhanova, said: "We'll produce a

Staff at the school were the Nick Bollettieri academy in quick to praise her. "She burned with a huge desire to What is more, there are play. You just couldn't get her off the court," said Marina Tyuryakova, who coached her for two years. "We're all very proud that such a great athlete grew up on these very courts. Mukhamedzhanova added.



THE NUMBERS GAME

110 Martina Hings is, at 16, the youngest women's finalist in 110 years

3 Pete Sampras saved the only three break points against him in his quarter-final yesterday. 18 The number of aces served

109 in the previous four rounds 1 The number of times Anna Kournikova held serve in her semi-final against Hingis yesterday

15 Rusedski has lost just twice in his last 15 matches by Britain's Greg Rusedski in his 3 The number of unseeded quarter-final. He had served players in the men's semi-finals

TODAY'S WEATHER Bright intervals, showers maybe thundery Maximum temp 190

Dackhand during his Photograph: Allsport The score yesterday was 6-1, 6-7, 6-1, 6-4, but if you wanted four-set defeat of Boris Becker utes. The statistic for first serves Lake's designs on stage career

Valda Lake, the 28-year-old Devon player, is swapping tennis for another kind of set. She is retiring to concentrate on her new career as a theatre set designer in New York.

The bubbly Lake never rose to great heights on the tennis court but she had 12 years on the circuit and was good enough to play for the British Fed Cup team last year and was runner-up to Wales' Sarah Loosemore in the British National championships at Telford in 1988.

"I've been living in New York for the past two years, dabbling between tennis and set designing," she said, "But now I'm going to go full time with my design work. It's been great fun playing tennis all round the world but I guess you have to

Wimbledon with one last bright memory. Playing with the Berkshire player, Paul Hand,

CATEGORY

Match 6 (Jackpot)

Match 5 plus bonus ball

Match 5

Match 3

the South African John-Laffnie De Jager and a certain Marti-

na Hingis. But as she said: "It was a good way to finish, playing against the best player in the world."

Power play: Pete Sampras strikes a backhand during his

Wimbledon is a time when all the former greats gather to chew the fat and Charlie Pasarell, twice a record breaker at Wimbledon, is no exception.

Pasarell, who runs the Indi-

an Wells tournament in California and serves on the ATP . Tournament Council, holds two records at Wimbledon that may never be equalled. He played an epic match

against Pancho Gonzales in the 1969 championships which last-Certainly Valda bowed out of ed for five hours and 12 minutes. the longest in Wimbledon history. Two years earlier, he had beaten Manuel Santana, the

round of the mixed doubles by title, in the first round, the first know. There are not too many and only time that the holder Spongs about so there could be has been beaten in his opening some connection."

> match. Pasarell, still looking very fit, said: "It seems like yesterday when I played Pancho and I still feel tired."

ON WEDNESDAY IT WAS THEM.

Draw date: 2/7/97. The winning numbers; 6, 10, 18, 22, 41, 45. Bonus number: 29.

Total Sales: £38,092,277, Prize Fund: £26,059,286 (45% of ticket sales plus £8,917,762 from Saturday's rollover jackpot).

NA PONTE DE AGAN. 🚑 THE NATIONAL TOLLEKA.

NO. OF WINNERS

37.850

Firefighter Eddy Spong, of the London Fire Brigade Western Command, has been stewarding at Wimbledon for 24 years but he did not realise he might have another connection with the All England Club.

Eddy's 12-year-old daughter, Samantha, was browsing through a Wimbledon programme when she noticed an article about A E H Spong, who had won the All-England Croquet championship three years

running in the 1890s. "Samantha asked me if we were related to this fellow," she was beaten in the first Spaniard who was defending his Eddy said. "But I don't really

£7,189.462

£60,012

£10

What has been the most amusing match at Wimbledon this vear? According to many onlookers, it was a mixed doubles match in the first round.

What was good about it? On one side of the net was the American Kelly Jones, playing with the Australian Kristine Kunce, and on the other was Kelly's wife, Tami, partnered by the South African Brent Hay-

Kelly, as a dutiful husband. never hit the ball too hard at his wife. But Tami had no such worries. She belted the ball at Kelly with all her might.

It didn't do a lot of good. Kelly and Kristine won 6-46-3, but they all had a good laugh, which makes a change in these days of high-powered tennis,

TOTAL EACH TIER

£14.378.924

£1.049.451

£2.308.850

16,639,290



He threw his racket and didn't get a warning. I got a warning for nothing. A peeved Nicolas Klefer after his defeat yesterday." ■ The mind says: 'I want to go

out there and play my best,' and the body says: "No". Greg Rusedski after his quarter-final defeat by Geanc Ploine.

For sure, it wasn't one of my best performances. I'm going to have improve something for Saturday...if I win the final it would be my greatest feeling. Martina Hingis after her semi-final victo

E didn't come here to retire, came here to wo the championship. Michael Stich after beating Tim Henman.

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Holder: R Krajicek (Neth) Quarter-finals M Stich (Ger) bt T HENMAN (GB) 6-3 6-2 6-4

was his final how.

C Pioline (Fr) bt G Rusedski (GB) 6-4 4-6 6-4 6-3 P SAMPRAS (US) bt 8 BECKER (Ger) 6-1 6-7 6-1 6-4 T Woodbndge (Aus) bt N Klefer (Ger) 7-6 2-6 6-0 6-4

Women's singles Holder: S Graf (Ger) Semi-finals

HINGIS (Swit) bt A Kournikova (Rus) 6-3-6-2 J NOVOTNA (Cz Rep) bl. A SANCHEZ VIC-ARIO (Sp) 6-4 6-2 **Men's doubles**

Holders: M Woodforde and T Woodbridge (Aus) **Quarter-finals** W Black (Zim) and J Grabb (US) bt D JOHN-SON and F MONTANA (US) 5-4 6-1 6-2 M DAMM and P VIZNER (Cz Rep) by N BROAD (GB) and P NORVAL (SA) 4-6 4-6 7-6 6-4

Women's doubles Holders: H Sukova (Cz Rep) and M Hings (Swil) Third round

L NEILAND (Lat) end H SUNOVA (Cz Rep) br N TAUDIAT (Fr) end L 14 WALD (US) 6-4 6-4 N ARENDT (US) and M BOLLEGRAF (Neth) to N KUIMUTA and N MIYAGI (Japan) 6-2 3-8

Mixed doubles Holders: C Suk and C Sukova (Cz Rep) First round

M Petchey and C Wood (GB) bt E Sanchez and A Serichez Vicario (Sp) 4-6 retired J Girnelstob and C Rubin (US) bt M Jensen D JOHNSON and L M WILD (US) bt H J Davids and M Oremans (Neth) 6-3 6-4 Second round

A OLHOVSKIY (Rus) and L NEILAND (Let) bt P Nyborg and A Carlsson (Swe) 7-5 6-3 Third round A OLHOVSKIY (Rus) and I. NEILAND (Lat) bt W Anthurs (Aus) and T Krizan (Sloven) 6-2

Armstrong and Shales win final

Gerry Armstrong and Jeremy Shales, two of the longest-serving umpires at Wimbledon. will be in charge of the two sin-

gles finals this year.

Armstrong, from East Dean, Sussex, will umpire the men's singles final, scheduled for Sunday, while Shales, from Teddington, Middlesex, will umpire tomorrow's women's singles.

It will be Armstrong's second men's singles final, for he was also in charge of the 1988 final between Stefan Edberg and Boris Becker.

Shales, who has been umiring at Wimbledon since 1960, first took a women's singles final in 1978 when Martina Navratilova won the first of her nine victories by bearing Chris Evert.

Bobby Wilson, who reached the quarter-finals at Wimbledon four times between 1958 and 1963 is honest enough to admit that the general standard of play today is far higher than in his day.

But the former British Davis

Cup player thinks today's professionals have a much easier life than when he was striving to reach the top.

"Nowadays, the players run their own tour and can go anywhere, do anything and are en-tirely independent," he said.

In my day, the national as-sociations ruled the roost and woe betide you if you stepped out of line. You only went abroad with permission from your national association and did as

A conversation overheard in the Press Association Centre Court gallery today:

A man walked in, looked round and said: "I've come here because someone wants to do an interview with Par Cash." The steward in charge, fire-

fighter Bobby Gorman of the London Fire Brigade Western Command, replies: "You want to do an interview with Pat Cash?" The man staggered back and said: "I am Pat Cash." The result: no interview.

Game set and watch. ROLEX

OFFICIAL TIMEKEEPER TO THE CHAMPIONSHIPS, WIMBLEDON

WIS ENT the WS.

Contraction of the same of

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Les tipes

Service of Page

DEREK PRINGLE

reports from Old Trafford Australia 224-7 v England

A marvellous Test debut by the Kent fast bowler Dean Headley. who took 3 for 67, has given England a slight advantage on the first day of this third Cornhill Test match. However, on a pitch where bowling is still proving substantially easier than batting, Australia ended the day far more healthily than had once looked fikely, a situation they owe almost entirely to Steve Waugh, who scored his 12th Test hundred in the last over of the day.

It could and should have been much worse for the visitors, who but for Wangh's superbly visceral century, played and missed with monotonous regularity, as each England bowler in turn found extravagant movement from the juicy surface, In-deed had England bowled a fuller length before lunch, Australia may well have been contemplating a first-innings total like the one at Edgbaston.

With England turning that occasion into victory to go 1-0 up in the series, further concession at this stage was the last thing Mark Taylor would have wanted. The history books may reveal match here by inserting the opposition, but last night Taylor was probably being reminded of the claim of a James Joyce character who reckoned that, "history was a nightmare from which he was trying to awaken".

That said, the decision to bat first on one of the grassiest Test pitches ever seen at Old Trafford was always going to be loaded with risk. In fact whoever had won the toss would have probably made the decision with their fingers crossed. Fortunately for England it was Taylor who called correctly and who duly put his foot in it by batting.

Neither captain however, could have counted on the speed with which Headley settled to his task. Wearing a now ubiquitous ear stud in his left ear, the 27year-old bowled briskly from the Warwick Road end, dangerously darting the ball across the two left-handed openers.

A stinging blow to Taylor's hel-



Mixed emotions: Australia's Greg Blewett turns to view the wreckage of his stumps after he had been bowled by Darren Gough yesterday

him confidence and it was not long before he sent the leader of the opposition packing with a beauty that squared him up before carrying low to Graham Thorpe at first slip. Five overs later. Darren Gough compounded the Australian captain's misery by persuading Greg Blewett to

drag the ball on to his stumps. Removing left-handers is clearly something of a speciality of Headley's and he later dismissed both Matthew Elliott and Michael Bevan - both edging catches behind to Alec Stewart - in identical fashion, a haul that brought raucous appreciation

To the geneticist, Headley's debut here is clear evidence that sporting genes run deep, though the most perplexing thing is that his father Ron, and his legendary grandfather George, were both batsmen. Clearly it is the maternal side of the fami-

ly that produce the bowlers.

When Headley rested, his county colleague Mark Ealham toiled in his place, not as second fiddle, but as part of an orchestra good enough to prevent Mark Waugh - another caught behind by Stewart - from stealing the show. The same combination also did for Shane Warne dropped him on 13 off Headley.

off Andy Caddick. A day of leaden skies, which further aided the lavish lateral

movement, did not help the Australians' plight either, which although later hindered by some imprecise umpiring when Elliott was given out caught behind off his shirt a spirited eighth-wicket stand between Steve Waugh and Paul Reiffel, although the Victorian fast bowier will be grateful for the let-off he had when Stew-

that they had Steve Waugh stone dead lbw when the batsman missed a straight full toss off Andy Caddick. Strangley, umpire George Sharpe, who also reprieved Reiffel in the last over of the day when he edged Robert Croft behind, was not as certain as the 20,000-strong full house. Nevertheless, you could tell Waugh, on five at the time, felt

he was lucky to get away with it. But as most experienced batsmen will attest, you need a break on pitches as seamer-friendly as this one. Waugh got his and needed no further persuasion in producing his finest innings of the minded of the twins. The Australian vice-captain revels in taut situations and again his bat alternated between snade and rapier as he helped Australia avoid complete ignoming with a combination of dour defence and flashing boundaries. Having had Australia 173

for 7 when bad light first held up play, England will be kicking themselves that Australia ended the day adding 51 runs without further loss. But as England should perhaps have remembered from previous encounters, while the Waugh still

P R Rediel not ou Path: 1-9 (Raylor), 2-22 (Blewelt), 3-42 (M Wangfd, 4-85 (Elect), 5-113 (Besen), 6-150 (Healy), 7-160 (Warne).

> 5-1-11-1, 2-1-1-0); Croft 4-0-13-0 (2-0-5-0, 2-0-1-0). 5-0, 2-0-7-0).
> Progress Flast day: 58: 84 min; 20.2 owns.
> Linch 78.3 (Elliot; 36, S Waugo 19) 30 owns.
> Ren delayed resizin until 1.50 min; 108: 143
> min; 34.4 owns. RSP 2.46-3.23 min; 1285 (S Waugh 42, Year) 91 40.4 owns. 150:
> 192 min; 48.5 owns. Tea 162-7 (S Waugh 70, Reiffel 1) 51 owns. Bad light stopped pay 4.43-6.11 pm. 173-7 (S Waugh 77, Reiffel 5) 54.2 owns. 200: 265 min; 62.5 owns. fel 5) 54.2 overs. 200; 265 min, 52.5 overs.
> 5 Wasgin's 50: 105 min, 73 bells, 5 fours.
> 100: 208 min, 152 bells, 12 fours.
> Diel Alber M A Butcher, "M A Atherion, 14
> 1 Steesen, N Husselin, 6 P Thorpe, J P Caveller, M A Estinam, R D B Croft, D Gough, A R
> Caddick, D W Headley,
> Leopinese G Sharp and S Ventestaregisman.
> TV replay simplifies J H Hampshire.
> Match reference R S Machagalio.

Old Trafford

scoreboard

"M A Taylor o Thorpe b Her 22 min. 20 belts M T G Elliott o Stawert b H

M T & Elliott & Stement b Head
131 min, 98 balls, 4 lours
G S Blemett b Gough
18 min, 13 balls, 1 four
M E Waugh c Stewart b Eather
37 min, 27 balls, 2 fours
S R Waugh not out
221 min, 153 balls, 12 fours
M & Belann c Stewart b Headle
25 mn, 16 balls, 1 four
11 A Heady C Stewart b Caddack
36 min; 20 balls, 1 four
S K Warne c Stewart b Edition

Hands-on Atherton in charge

HENRY BLOFELD

So far, this series has not been blessed by a single good pitch. The principal reason has been the weather, which has not allowed groundsmen the time to work on their pitches. Substandard they may have been but they have still produced some fascinating cricket.

No day has been more inter esting than this first at Old Trufford which, in netween the showers, saw a tussle in the best traditions of Anglo-Australian cricket. A fine innings by Steve Waugh and un excellent start in Test cricket by Dean Headley were the outstanding features.

There were also a number of less weighty but significant contributions especially as far as the long-term is concerned. Mike Atherton's captainey has been under plenty of criticism in the last year, especially in Zimbabwe in the first half of the winter's tour. Atherton resolutely defended his methods then and clearly had the full support of his players. England then won in New Zealand and Atherton returned home as firmly enseenced in his position as ever and his reappointment for the present se-

ries was a mere formality. The clear message was: carry on as before. Yet, whatever he may say, Atherton has altered his approach to the captaincy. He has become more flexible, more obviously involved and more prepared to try to make things happen rather than simply waiting for something to turn up.

This is most certainly not trying to say that he has turned overnight into a Mike Brearley or a Ray Illingworth. Far from it, but he has changed for the better, whatever the reasons. The main one may be that he now has three selectors. David Graveney, Graham Gooch and Mike Gatting, two of whom captained England and who are more or less contemporaries of his. He finds it easier to listen to them and to follow their advice than he did with Illingworth.

Perhaps the most noticeable and important aspect of Atherton's metamorphosis is his oositive approach to the job. In the past, when Atherton has been in charge a spectator could have been in the ground for half an hour and still have been uncertain who was the captain. Atherton was undemonstrative and unaggressive. At Old Trafford it would have taken the same spectator just three balls to have known that Atherton was the captain. This more demonstrative approach also lets the opponents know who is in charge.

Bowler bringing his good breeding to bear

JON CULLEY

Kent 306

Northamptonshire 41-0

It has been a long 22 months for Alan Igglessien but yesterday, on

the ground where he made his

first-class debut 12 seasons ago

almost to the day, the Kent

seamer made his long awaited comeback and it was not half bad.

The wickets might not have come for the 32-year-old who has been plagued by injuries, the

most recent a back problem, but

four of his half dozen overs were

maidens and he conceded just

four runs in a lively opening spell.

It was little short of a mira-

As maiden Test wickets go, it was one he will remember with a special glow; one, indeed, he may well tell his own grandchildren about with some pride. Dean Headley, son of Ron, grandson of George, collected his debut cap from Michael Atherton and then announced the arrival in Test cricket of a third generation al recognition at the end of his from one family line by dis- career and now Dean has mainmissing the Australian captain. tained the family tradition.

have followed their fathers into the Test arena but the Headley story is unique. George, assessed by some to be the equal if not the better of Bradman, made 10 centuries in 40 Tests for the West Indies, averaging 60. His son, who scored more than 20,000 runs for Worcestershire, was not nearly so talented but was rewarded with internation-

Igglesden makes fresh start

overs were possible on The

Mote. Heavy rain fell for much

of the day, but sterling work by

the groundstaff convinced um-

pires Dickie Bird and Vanburn

Holder that the pitch was fit and

a sparse crowd was treated to

a full hour's play from 5.30pm.

Rain Man and someone who is

dogged by bad weather, was de-

termined to rid himself of the

reputation. The mere fact that

they got any play at all meant

that he has yet to sit out a whole

day in any match in which he has

stood involving first-class sides.

year was in a Second XI match

"The only rain I've seen this

at Horsham in June," the to be turned away."

Bird, known by some as the

cle that Igglesden was able to 64-year-old said. "Otherwise bowl a ball let alone that 16 the only time I have had to come

There have been 32 sons who

proud and, lest there be any suspicion that he is somehow betraying the nation of his forebears, he is more English than a good many who have worn the three lions. His father left the Caribbean as a boy to settle in Dudley, growing up to play in the Birmingham League, Dean was born in Stourbridge, can talk Brummie with the best and supports West Bromwich Albion. He has neatly avoided the carrying of one burden in life by

the only time I have had to come

off was for bad light during the

England A v The Rest match at

Edgbaston in April. So you tell them, I am not the Rain Man."

Kent have sold their alloca-

tion of tickets for the Benson and

Hedges Cup final against Surrey

at Lord's on Saturday week

Kent were inundated with ap-

plications days after beating

Northamptonshire in the semi-

final and more than 5,300 tick-

ets were despatched by the

county in nine days. Assistant secretary Bernard Thompson

said: "We have had to disappoint

about 150 members by sending

back their applications, and al

least 250 other applications had

It is one of which he is deeply becoming a bowler rather than inviting direct comparisons with his elders, and he has reached this pinnacle only through his own drive to succeed. Worcestershire took him on,

nine years ago, as an 18-year-old. But they let him go after a season and only after rebuilding his confidence with Staffordshire did he win another chance at firstclass level. He repaid Middlesex with five wickets on his debut but left Lord's unfulfilled, rejecting their contract offer as inadequate.

reports from Leicester

Yorkshire 268: Leicestershire 5-1

The novelty of playing cricket on two successive days did not last long for Leicestershire and York-

shire yesterday. A lunchtime

deluge ended proceedings after

30 overs and eight hours' play had been lost on the first two days.

into the abbreviated action,

David Byas went on to make 88

from 115 balls and Alan Mullally

picked up another four wickets.

sweated under its covers

overnight offered something

to the quicker bowlers, but

Mulially owed something to

A pitch which had no doubt

Of those who managed to get

Yorkshire make haste

And so to Kent, where his talents have blossomed. Last season, he took three Championship hat-tricks in a first-class tally of 51, despite missing the first eight weeks with a hip injury. Last season, indeed, was one of particular frustration. Having excelled in Pakistan with England A, where he took 25 wickets at 15 runs each, the transition to Test cricket seemed likely to be offered almost immediately and the timing of the injury could not

Yorkshire's worthy, though not

always discreet efforts to be pos-

itive and make up for lost time.

Mulially also bowled an un-

acceptable number of no-balls,

but with all the opicker bowlers

running in tentatively on greasy

run-ups normal judgement had

Byas's quick assessment of er-

rors in line and length enabled

him to collect another five

boundaries with punchy strokes

off front and back foot until he

went after a wide one. Thereafter

Yorkshire looked as though they

could not wait to be bowling

rather than batting, but no soon-

er had Peter Hartley plucked out

Vince Wells's middle stump

than the weather intervened.

He bowled better for less re-

ward the previous day.

to be suspended.

On his return he won a place in England's one-day side but in the winter had to settle again for the secondary tour. In Australia with England A he was again the tourists' most successful bowler. but the hip trouble flared for a second time, requiring surgery to correct it. He recovered in time to play a part in this season's Texaco Trophy triumph only for an unrelated back injury to rule him out of the first two Tests. Yesterday, his perseverance gained its just reward.

Lancashire look to Fairbrother

Round-up

Neil Fairbrother and lan Austin strengthened Lancashire's position on the second day of their match against Middlesex at Uxbridge. Fairbrother was unbeaten on 82 and Austin on 35

as the visitors ended on 309 for 4 in reply to Middlesex's 118, a lead of 191 after bad light brought play to an early close. Lancashire had begun on 126

without loss, but Nathan Wood fell to the last ball of Philip Tufnell's fust over without adding to his overnight 67. Pairbrother joined Steve Titchard, who went on to make 79 before he was caught at silly mid-off to give Tufnell his second wicket.

made only two more before he was bowled trying to sweep Tufnell and Andrew Flintoff managed only 10 before falling to Angus Fraser.

Fairbrother was then joined by Austin, who hit five fours in his first 25 runs and saw Lancashire to their third batting point, while Fairbrother also picked up the pace.

Mark Lathwell and Piran

Holloway achieved their highest scores of the season while holding up Essex at Chelmsford. Lathwell made 87, which included 15 boundaries, while the more cautious Holloway made 90, which spanned 71 overs. Their third-wicket partner-

Graham Lloyd got off the ship produced 147, ending when mark with a straight six, but Lathwell edged Danny Law to slip, and provided the basis for Somerset's 246 for 6 between lengthy stoppages for rain.

The visitors, replying to 280, looked poised for a substantial lead as they went heyond 200 with only three wickers down. But after Ashley Cowan had Keith Parsons caught behind, the left-arm spinner Paul Grayson struck in successive overs.

He ended Holloway's resistance by persuading him to pull into the hands of mid-on, and had Mike Burns caught behind. That left Somerset 233 for 6, but Rob Turner and Graham Rose survived the final half-hour as the visitors ended 31 adrift with four wickets (cft.

istrong and les win fine

. ...

Britannic Assurance County Championship y of four: 11.0 today

Durbeni v Hampshire CHESTER LE-STREET: No play yes

CHE MSFORD: Somerset (4pts), with four first-hanings wickets standing, trail Essex (2) by 31 runs. rset won toss ESSEX - First Inclines 280 (D D J Robinson 78, P J Prichard 51; J I D Kert 4-83).

SET - First brokes Destright 42 for 2)

C L Holoway e Gooch b Grayson .

1 N Lathwell e Cowan b D R Law ...

A Pursons e Rolling b Cowan ... R / Turner not out Fail (cont): 3-147, 4-207, 5-219, 6-233. To bet 11 D Kerr, K J Shine, S Herzberg.

Umpiros: R Julian and M J Kachen. Glamorgan v Gloncosterskire SWANSEA: Glemorgen (Spits) have reached 319 for S in their first lankage v Glouces-/Liversengerships WON 1053

Gibucestership won toss
GLAMORGAN - First Innings
Chemight: 19 for 0)
S P Ismes c Lynch b Lows
H Mome not out
M P Mayrand c & b Young
P A Cottey not out
F A Cottey not out
Yould (for 3, 79 overs) the det and age

Felt: 1-28, 2-40, 3-263. To best: G.P. Butcher, A.D. Shaw, Wager You-nis, S.D. Thomas, S.L. Watten, D.A. Cosker, Bowling: Lewis 17-2-52-2; Young 18-4-59-1; Sheetet 7-0-40-0; Ball 19-1-76-0; Aleyno 5-0-31-0; Davis 13-0-54-0.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: N J Trainor, A J Wright, K P Sheare, M A Lynch, S Young, *M W AL-leyne, †R C Russell, T H C Hencock, M C J Ball, J J Lewis, R P Davis, Upopires: A Clarison and A G T Whitehead.

Kost y Northamptonshire MAESTONE: Northamptonshire (4sts), with all their first-tradings wickets stand-ing, traff Kent (3) by 265 runs. KCHT - First Burings 306 (N.) Liong 57, P A Strong 55; Mohammad Alean 4-56). HORTHAMPTONSHIRE - First Inclines M B Loye not out

To beat "R. J. Besley, K.M. Curren, T.C. Waston, D.J.G. Sales, 1D. Robey, J.N. Sospe, J.P. Tay-lor, M. Algram, S.A.J. Boowell, Bousting: Ignassden 8-4-4-0; Thompson 5-1-21-0; Strong 3-1-11-0; Phillips 2-1-5-0.

Leicestershire y Yorkshire

LERCESTER: Leleasterables (4pts), with place first-mings wiskets standing, trail Yorkshire (2) by 293 runs. Yorkshire won tots
YORKSHIRE - First Employs
(Overnight: 149 for 5)
"D Byte e Johnson D Mullelly
It J Blaskey & Reson b Mullelly
- Harriey b Mullelly
C E W Silverwood c Nation b Mullelly
R D Sterry & Mullelly
R J Sidebottom not out
Belgins (15, 158, w6, nb20)

mt 6.208, 7-247, 8-247, 9-250.

CRICKET SCOREBOARD Souther Milns 15-1-60-0; Multally 25.5-8-103-5; Person 14-8-30-2; Ormond 6-2-19-1; Wells 8-0-45-2. To bate 1 J Succifie, "J J Whiteker, N C Johnson, B F Smith, 17 A Noon, D J Milns, J Or-mond, A R K Pierson, A D Mulady.

Bowling: Silverwood 2-1-4-0; Hartley 1.5-1-Middlesex y Lancashire INCREDGE: Larcachire (7pts), with six first-leadings wickets standing, lead Middlesex

(1) by 191 rest. Lanceshire won toss MIDDLESEX - First bankags 118 (P.) Ma

Felt 1-126, 2-193, 3-215, 4-244. To bat: 1W K Hage, P J Mortin, G Keedy, G Yates, D J Shedkord. Yares, D.F. Sheutri.

Bowling: Hernti 25-6-64-0; Fraser 22-5-771; Tothell 32-9-58-3; Johnson 17-4-51-0; Mallo 13-4-37-0; Wookes 8-2-16-0. Umpires: J Hoider and J C Baldersto

SURREY - First lanings (Overnight: 157 for 6) H P Bucknell b Donald . Sussex v Worcestershire ARUNDEL: States (Apts), with seven fire

WORCESTERSHIRE - First landings (Overnight: 185 for 8) 15 J Rhodes not out Pail (cont): 9-255.

Bouling Drains 20-8-33-3; Kiroley 24-9-59-2; Robinson 22-5-48-1; Mexim-Jenkins 14-- noomeon 22-5-48-1; Meran-Jenkins 14-3-51-2; Kinsn 11-2-33-0; K Newell 12-4-20-2. CW .; Athey is Riewport ... M T E Perise not out N R Taylor low b Shenyar A A Whan C Rhodes b Sheny

Fall: 1.6, 2-15, 3-23. To back K Newell, M Newell, R S C Martin-Jentens, "TP Micross, V C Drokes, R J Kirtley. onday: Namport 8-5-10-1; Sharlyar 8-4-12-

Umpires: A A Jones and R Palmer. Warwickshire y Surrey EDGRASTON: Warwickshire (4pts), with sk first-innings wickets standing, trail Surrey (0) by 34 russ. redickshire Worl toss

Fall (cont): 7-152, 8-163, 9-192. WARRANCESHINE - First lookings
"N V Knight low to Blackned
A J Mobies low to Blackned
D L Herry & Mobies
D P Cistler & Ward to Tudor to hats N M K Smith, 1T Frost, & Welch, A F Gales,

Bruding Butnet 150-61-3; Leurs 8-3-21-0; Tu-dor 6-1-20-1; Hollington 10-1-36-0; Ratchife 4-1-10-0; Seglem 1-0-1-0 Unapires: D J Constant and K E Paimer. Tour match

Second day of three; 11.0 today Nottinghamshire v Pakistan A GE: Perdeten A, with five first-in-s standing, trail Nottinghametric Palastan A WOF 1059

dec at overnige total.

PAKISTAM A - Viste Innings.

Al Naque b Downsin
Saletem Beh c Atzel b Tolley
"Authernand Wassem Ibu b Tolley
"Authernand Wassem Ibu b Tolley
Rezen Reze b Tolley
Rezen Reze b Tolley
Anist Mehmood rot Gut

Agree Meanwood up out an appearance of the Colonia (C2 (0.1) Total (for 5, 34 owes).

Total (for 5, 34 owes).

To bat: Shore Meld, Horard Qeorer, Shore Akmar, Abdul Razerik. Other matches Rouging: Franks 8-1-19-0; Sowen 8-1-23-0; To bey 9-5-14-3; Dowmen 7-2-9-1; Bettis 2-0-3-1 Umpires: B Dudieston and N G Cowley. Varsity match Second day of three; 11.0 today

Cambridge v Oxford

P & Morgan c House to James C)

J A G Ruison st Churton b R O Jones ...
R D Hudson c Churton b P S Jones ...
C Posal law a P S Jones ...
J M M Ayers c Churton b P S Jones ...
L G Buchanon b P S Jones ...
C M Battanbee not out

Extres (09, 64, w14, nb2) ... Total (82.4 overs) Fall (coath 2-37, 3-54, 4-87, 5-190, 6-221 7-252, 8-253, 9-261. Reveting: P S Jones 28.4-10-67-6; How 25-8-74-1; Janisch 9-0-59-1; Freeth 11-2-30-0; House 1-0-2-0; R O Jones 6-0-27-1. DGE UNIVERSITY - Second Indige

Total (for 1, 21 overs). To bee R O Jones, W J House, Q J Hughes, 10 R H Cruston, P S Jones, A N Janisch, J W O Freeth, E J How. Bowling Avers 10-3-21-0; Patel 8-3-34-1; Battarbe 2-0-8-0; Wagh 1-0-1-0. Unspires: B Leadbetter and D R Shephert.

SECOND XI CHAMPONSHIP (Second day of three; 1.0.1 today): Taumbou Somener, 205 for 0 (S Trego 132no, H Morgan 63no) v Giamorgan, Lutour Heru 350 for 8 dec (I N West 83); Northerspromehre 65 for 1. Whethespa Not-triglementhy v Research to play. Whethespa Not-triglementhy v Research to play. Whethespa Not-triglementhy v Research to the play. Notes contributed with the play. Research 100 Cassaccic Cambridgeshra 156 for 8 (S A Kalett 55; A Richardson 4-64) v Staffondshre. Match Grawn.

Rose cannot prevent advance of Korea

Hockey BILL COLWILL

England

Jane Sixsmith, who on Wednesday had scored a precious goal

in England's 1-1 draw with the Olympic champions, Australia, was again on target in the 17th minute of England's game against Korea, the Olympic silver medallists, in the Korean Telecom Cup in Seoul yesterday. In a classic game of flowing

hockey, England's goal came after an exchange of passes between Sixsmith and Tina Cullen, Sissmith's powerful shotbeating

the Korean goalkeeper. A diving penalty stroke save by Hilary Rose from Kyung A Lee after Karen Brown was judged to have obstructed the Korean player on the interval, kept England's hopes of their

first-ever victory against Korea

Nine minutes into the second half Korea were on terms. A powerful drive down Korea's lett wing ended with Ji Young Lee deflecting the ball in. With just two minutes remaining Eun Young Lee slammed in the winner from the top of the circle.

A win for England in their final game tomorrow against Argentina should give them a share in the \$25,000 (£15,000) prizemoney, being offered for the first time in the women's game. HITTER HITTER WORTHER STATES.

ENGLAND: N Bose Himeraby of Massichuserts; N Benden Harcesten, J Moudel
(proster), N Benden Harcesten, J Moudel
(proster), N Michael Slough, N Devides
(Satton Contrell, capt), L Wright, Olton Larequest; J Stessable Station Contraint), T
Cullen (Highresh), P Miller (Lose Sen), Substitutes used: J Senial (Sough), L Copolished
(Sough), C Voss (Lenesten), D MarstonGrath (Official).

samen (Crium).

KOREA: Deok San Int. Eun Jung Cho; Os Nam
Perl, Shin Soung On, Eun Hyung Choc, Hartin
Sool Cho, Ji Young Lee, Myung Ok Wat, Eun
Young Lee, Hwan Soon Cho, Eun Hyung Perl
Substitutes used: JaoSool You, Eun Jun Kin,
Soo Jung Kim, Nyung A Leo

Back seat Seve Andy Farrell at the Irish Open, page 28



WIMBLEDON '97: Henman and Rusedski fail to keep the flag flying as Stich and Pioline put a dampener on No 1 Court

Britain's day of broken dreams

JOHN ROBERTS Tennis Correspondent



It was nice while it hampionships have now been returned

Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski tried as hard as they could in the circumstances, but both were outplayed by superior opponents on the day. So end-ed Britain's dream of two men duelling in the semi-finals, one of whom would have advanced to the final for the first time since Bunny Austin met Donald Budge in 1938.

Rusedski, the Canadian-born British No 2 was unable to produce the consistency of serve or the efficiency of return to make a dent in the confidence of Cedric Pioline. The Frenchman won 6-4. 4-6. 6-4. 6-3 in two hours precisely and will now meet Michael Stich, the 1991

The German required only an hour and 28 minutes to outclass Henman 6-3, 6-2, 6-4, Henman, in common with Rusedski, was unable to rely on the efficiency of his serving, and Stich gained in confidence with virtually every winning shot. Henman said. "It was probably the worst experience of my life on a tennis court.

Henman's defeat means that there will be at least one unseeded finalist again. The 22 year old from Oxford, seeded No 14, experienced the misfortune of playing Stich when Having exceeded most people's the 28-year-old German was in the mood and physical condition to make a mockery of his ranking of No 88 in the world.

Stich has announced that he will retire from Grand Slam tennis after Wimbledon, a decision taken because of a degenerative shoulder injury and the realisation that he has done roamin'. or whatever the German equivalent is, and feels the need to in three tie-break sets in the

Fourth of courses in set

10 "High Noon" - and how

11 Modern partygoers los-

12 In short spell eccentric

13 Agree with Party (on

16 Lean after very large

18 Songs of praise from

ing head in States (5)

has house-trained ele-

15 Girl from Italy jammed 1

past ages, vocalised (6)

in English byway (6)

4 Financier's gambling

meal (6)

hope (6)

phant (9)

trade) (6)

port (6)

No. 3342. Friday 4 July

Double disappointment: Britain's Tim Henman waves to the crowd on No1 Court after following Greg Rusedski (right) out of the tournament

sample life away from the tour. He arrived at the All England Club far from pleased with his season and determined to leave on as high a note as possible. expectations, he now has the drive to fulfil his own by bidding auf weidershen on the Centre Court on Sunday, with or without the

trophy in his hands. Stich, it may be remembered. was the triumphant rain man of 1991 when the All England Club experienced its worst soaking until the past week or

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

True, about the Span-

pound short in mea-

22 Complain, finding

24 Those that bore with

25 Tramp in file, with

promises, it's said (6)

third of brigade ab-

Little girl? Boy? This

is the way to tell! (6)

A French gathering

Deputies is undistin-

without group of

guished (15) 3 Hits, these bands (5)

sure (5)

ing (15)

it was greeted? (3,23,7) 23 Quite without mean-

semi-finals and overpowered cess. Stich was even moved to his illustrious compatriot. Boris toss his two Wimbledon towels Becker, in a final blessed with glorious sunshine.

Often lugubrious on the

court, sometimes to the point of wearing the look of the chief mourner at his own funeral. Stich allowed himself a broad smile at the end of vesterday's performance, he raised his arms to his sparse but vociferous supporters and then tapped his racket in appreciation of the generous applause from the majority of the 11,000 who had come to the new No 1 Court in the hope of hailing British suc-

in conveyance (9)

Always ready to talk

about Henrietta (6)

9 Mixed spirit with flowing water up North (6) 14 Here, HM is host (9)

17 Changing one's colours – reportedly going West (6)

18 Deposits making bark curl and go wrong (4,2)19 Gap for Union Canal, af-

ter blasting (6)
20 He keeps on giving check with Queen (6)

22 Boy on home turn in

out (6)

Henman's match had barely started when the rain came to send the players back to the locker rooms for two hours and 43 minutes. Having been unable to take advantage of a break point, the Briton at least had the encouragement of knowing that he could attack the German's serve. When the players returned, however, Stich immediately put pressure on Henman's serve, and although this was saved the pattern of an all-to-brief contest was set: Stich on the offensive. Henflow of points.

today's matches.

into the crowd, making the odd cynic or two wonder if he had a couple of pals who would come to place them on seats for Henman at this point had had enough of the proceedings. He did not wait for his opponent but walked off the court alone, sparing a modest wave for the thousands who still chanted his name.

YESTERDAY AT WIMBLEDON

to outwit his opponents that Henman began to feed Stich with double faults. He hit six in 15 serves in the concluding stages of the opening set, three of them in being broken to 5-3. The last of these may have startled even Stich, so far off the mark was Henman with both serves on the third break point of the game.

The German lost only one more point in serving out the set — own serving errors where he had

the second set, luring his opponent into hitting a back hand over the baseline by returning a second serve.

Henman had an opportunity to break back immediately when Stich double-faulted in the next game, but the German swept away the error with a stylish serve and forehand volley, leaving Henman to pick up his

After taking a two sets to love lead with only an hour played. Stich did not allow Henman a point on his serve until the eighth game of the third set. The Briton salvaged one, and the other was a double fault. By this time Stich could afford to be gen-

Rusedski, whose lower back had troubled him on Saturday, said he felt no physical pain during yesterday's match with Pioline, but admitted to fatigue after a run of impressive form which has lasted through the tournaments at Queen's and Nottingham and enabled him to produce some of the best serve and volleying of his career until

Two double faults in lesing the opening game did nothing to steady. Rusedski's nerve and Pioline, one of the finest returners of serve on the tour, settled into an exhibition of his all-round court craft.

ow of points.

after 31 minutes. He then took left off, hitting two more dou-minutes and quickly recovered af-Such was the strain of trying advantage of Henman's seventh ble faults to go 14-1 in arrears. ter losing the second set. What-



ever gains Rusedski imagined he had made, he was swilly disabused when the Frenchman picked up his game and beyon to hit breathtaking passing shots. many of them when roturning Rusedski's serves, which began to

look less fearsome by the minute. Pioline, by contrast, allowed: Rusedski univ three points of his serve in the fourth set, striding into the semi-finals by breaking the Briton with backhand return, leaning Rusedski to shake his hear in

Disappointment for the out crowd

The stock exchange for today's Wimbledon tickets suffered a Black Thursday when things did not go exactly to plan in yes-terday's quarter-finals. Cedric

One turned up metal tool Part origins of New Jer-sey? (8-7)

buried alive for the last fortnight to miss this day as a rare moment of sporting significance in the British sporting calendar, yet, at 11 o'clock, the people's army (officer division) appeared to be still taking people's brunch. In fact, there were many who were detained in the hospitality units and debenture holders lounge by further tif-fin and Rusedski played throughout to a less than

This, he assured us, did not

No 1 Court proved an empty, deflating experience for two Britons yesterday, writes Richard Edmondson

said. "The people that came to watch were tremendous and supportive and trying to get me going. I'm just disappointed I couldn't give them something to cheer about at the end of the

That day dawned with omi-nous portents for Rusedski in his morning newspaper. Firstly there seemed to be unequivocal thought that he was on his way to an all-British semi-final. Then there was mention of an Australian cricketer appearing at Old Trafford, a certain Greg

Under filthy skies and in the presence of the one-man monsoon season that is Cliff Richard, Rusedski lost the first point to a forehand passing shot from Pioline. There was no

huge service in the arsenal. If he could play himself you would be assured of a very short match indeed. On this occasion the howitzers were erratic and the returns a misnomer. This meant a first set barren in terms of continuity. There are more rallies

were in the opening cycle. However, Greg has at least developed a strange intimacy with his towel this fortnight, a relationship which makes him the Linus of the greensward. Wiping his face is not a func-

tional act, it is more a nervous

from Paris to Dakar than there

tried another system yesterday headband. That did not work either and you knew the game was up when he asked if his opponent was usings new balls just after he had seen them rolled out of the canister for his service game.

There was more tennis in the first game of Henman's match with Stich, but then rain drove the players off court for over two and a half hours. It seems they were drinking bottles of pop during the suspension as both had to leave the arena again after play resumed.

Stich emerged with two strands of cotton drooping from his shorts. Detailed inspection revealed these to be his legs. On a bad day, the German can be-

down, and if mouning was a test of merit he would be an

Such, however, has been liberated by his decision to retire and Wimbledon will be his last Grand Slam tournament. The 1991 champion has a degener-ative shoulder injury and has also become fired with the grind of travelling. On yesterday's showing there will be few in the locker room offering a lift to en-

tice him back on the circuit.

By the time of the second session most of the ticket-holders had been disinterred and they witnessed the unusual sight of Henman becoming increasing-ly traumatised. Having unscrewed his effervescence against Richard Krajicek in the previous round our man had forgotten to put the cap back on overnight. He was flat. Henman was distracted, vocally self-crit-

ical and eventually driven to thrashing a bag with his racket. The British No1 described it as the worst day of his tennis life, and he was almost as upset as the pavement touts left with sheaves of tickets for the nightmare semi-finals.

The Briton, who was wearing

voluminous basketball pants,

lost that game and in all hon-

esty failed to find a foothold in

the match. Greg is the post-dec-

imal Roscoe Tanner, a left-arm

swinger with little more than a

Pioline and Michael Stich advanced, at the same time sending a wrecking ball through the dream semi. Greg and Tim are It will be of some consolation to Greg Rusedski that some-

thing happened to the crowd on the way to the forum and his humbling at the hands of a Frenchman was not widely ob-See mounting storm, way You would have had to be

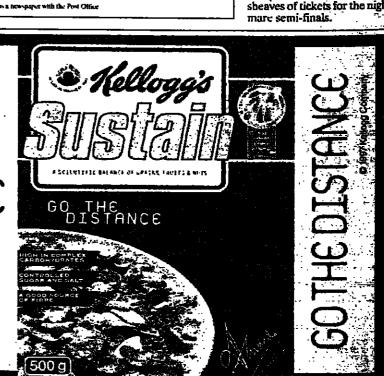
packed house.

contribute to his 6-4, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3 defeat. "I wasn't disap-

way back from there.

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HE'LL STILL BE PICKING UP THE SILVERWARE TOMORROW.



Furor. over tak Van Goghs Is this on of them